WORLD SOCCER

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ENGLAND v WALES

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RIVERA RETIRES

GIANNI RIVERA has retired — for the third time in three years.

Italian football's one-time Golden Boy made the announcement in Milan on June 20, saying that "now it's about time I gave up."

Rivera, 36, has just led Milan to their 10th league title, but will now concentrate on a management role in the club he took over nearly three years ago after a boardroom war.

It had been thought Rivera would play one last season in the Champions' Cup — which he helped Milan win in 1963 and 1969 — but he obviously thought better of it, deciding that his efforts would be better directed towards establishing stability again in the corridors of power.

Rivera was controversially sent off *twice* — the first occasions of his career — in Milan's close-season tour of South America.

Milan's other problems — See Page 37.

Nantes win . . .

NANTES are French Cup-holders for the first time — but they were given a tough ride by second division outsiders Auxerre in the Parc des Princes in Paris.

Auxerre's part-timers had shocked French football by defeating last year's winners Nancy and then new champions Strasbourg on the way to the final. Yet before the semi-final against Strasbourg their coach Guy Roux had said he would be more than satisfied if they managed a consolation goal!

In the final, with veteran Poland goalkeeper Marian Szeja in brilliant form, Auxerre held Nantes, league runners-up, to 1-1 after 90 minutes. But Nantes won 4-1 in extra time.

. . . and Juventus

JUVENTUS, with more league crowns than any other Italian club — 18 — increased their lead in Cup wins to six when they beat second division Palermo 2-1 in Naples, after extra time.

Palermo thought the San Paolo stadium their lucky ground, for they had beaten Napoli 2-1 there in the second leg of their semi-final.

And the Turin giants, comfortable semi-final winners over Catanzaro, suffered an early shock when Palermo grabbed the lead through Chimenti. But substitute defender Brio eventually equalised and unsettled Franco Causio headed the winner in the closing minutes of extra time.

Mixed doubles

LAJOS BAROTI, former Hungarian national manager, moved closer to a mixed double when his SSW Innsbruck took the Austrian Cup, beating Admira-Wacker 1-0, 1-1 in the two-leg final.

Innsbruck, sliding in the league towards the second division, were doubtful about holding on after the first leg. But in the return in Vienna the defence held firm before Zanon increased the aggregate lead in the 57th minute.

Kroboth's reply for Admira arrived only in the 88th minute, and that was far too late.

It was Innsbruck's fifth Cup win — all achieved in the last nine years.

AEK TRIUMPH BY DEFAULT

AEK ATHENS won the Greek championship on a technical knock-out after a massive row over a play-off with Olympiakos — who refused to face them.

AEK, champions last season and this year's Cup Final runners-up to Panionios, pulled level with Olympiakos on 56 points thanks to a 7-2 victory over Ioannina in their last game.

Olympiakos were held 3-3 by OFI Heraklion in Crete after being 3-1 down with 20 minutes remaining. AEK finished with a goal aggregate of 91-30 compared with 63-27 for their rivals.

The League decided on a play-off to decide the championship, but by 590 votes to 15 the Olympiakos members agreed to ignore the clash in protest against biased refereeing. They claimed Olympiakos had been refused two clear penalties against OFI which would have won the game and the title outright.

Considering their goals record AEK have some right to be champions, but the row overshadowed their celebrations.

Appropriately it came at the end of a season in which accusations of bribery and biased refereeing have been louder and more frequent than ever before. Sadly the FA seem powerless to put their house in order.

Amnesty for 97 players

UEFA celebrated its 25th anniversary with a major amnesty affecting dozens of players burdened with suspensions from the European competitions.

Some 97 players suspended from one to three games have had their bans wiped out completely; suspensions of six games were reduced to four; three-game bans to one game.

It's good news for Real Madrid forward Juanito, originally banned until November 1980, and who is now free to appear in Europe for club and country from next January.

In a statement issued from the executive committee meeting chaired by president Artemio Franchi, it was said: "UEFA hopes this will encourage a higher level of sportsmanship and fairness."

We shall see.

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COVER PICTURE

The USA national side are featured on our front cover this week.

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HAPPY FACES AS BRAZIL HIT BACK

by Claudio Kuck of "O Globo"

THE 'new' Brazilian team beat Paraguay 6-0 and Uruguay 5-1 in May and now everybody there is optimistic again.

After the defensive tactics unsuccessfully adopted by Zagalo in 1974 and by Claudio Coutinho last year in Argentina, it became boring to watch the former world champions playing.

Tackling very hard, with violence sometimes, the players fearfully passing the ball without exploring their natural skills and sense of improvisation, it seemed that they had lost the joy and happiness of playing. They became just another good national side like many others, without nothing special.

Then, Coutinho changed his mind. He didn't give up his target of achieving a speedy and total football, but at least he gave back to the players their main gift: freedom to improvise and to create.

First Brazilian skill and only after the European tactics and toughness. The first results couldn't be better. It looks like the Brazilian soccer is being born again. Though Paraguayans and Uruguayans are not very good, to score eleven goals against them, playing beautiful and efficient football is something.

In 1977, during the World Cup qualifying matches, Brazil played twice against Paraguay winning 1-0 in Assuncion and drawing 1-1 in Maracana.

This time Coutinho didn't try any miraculous ideas and just called up the best players at the moment. A "selecao do povo" (people's team) as the Press said. Names that the Brazilians from Rio Grande do Sul in the South to Amazonas in the North, were waiting for. Even before the good results the newspapers and TV backed his side, an unusual thing in Brazilian soccer.

After the two matches one player proved that he is really a big star and can help Brazil to become World Champions again. He is Socrates, a tall (six feet two inches) centre-forward of Corinthians (Sao Paulo) named after the ancient Greek philosopher. He brought a new pattern of playing, a new philosophy to the Brazilian side. He is very clever, quick minded, skilful and a natural scorer.

A "New Tostao" as the press and even Coutinho are saying. Gerson, the famous midfielder in 1970 World Cup commented: "Now I believe we are finally going in the right direction. As in Mexico we have gifted players in midfield, there is little difference between Clodoaldo, myself, Pele, Tastao, Rivelino and Carpeggiani, Falcao, Zico, Socrates. I even see an advantage now, we have two real wingers."

Falcao also proved that Coutinho was wrong in not calling him up for Argentina. Zico is more relaxed now that everybody is saying that the young Argentinian Maradona is the new Pele.

Nilton Batata, from Santos, fitted well in the right side of the new attack, but Eder or Joanzinho didn't show yet too much in the left side.

Next time Coutinho will try the young Flamengo left-winger Julio Cesar.

It would be a funny combination to have in the same attack the "Greek" Socrates alongside the "Roman" Cesar!

The defence will be better when the right full-back Nelinho (recovering from a back operation) replaces Toninho. Junior did well as left full-back, but is far away of being a new Nilton Santos (World Champion in 1958 and 62) or Marinho (now playing for New York Cosmos).

Coutinho gave a hint that his new Brazilian team are using four main tactics. Sovrates, Zico, Falcao or Carpeggiani are repeating the "central outstrip" used by the Hungarians Puskas, Hidegkuti and Koesis in 1954.

The Brazilians are also copying the position used by the English players in 1966 World Cup to receive the ball from a corner kick or a crossing. Another model is the "circulation soccer" presented by the Dutch in 1974 and above all the Brazilian skills.

Coutinho also said that if everything continues to go in the right direction, he thinks Brazil can be in the final of the 1982 World Cup in Spain, "possibly against Argentina." He watched Argentina versus Holland on TV and said that the Dutch didn't show anything new, while the Argentinians are building a good new side. "Some young players are very good. Maradona is one of them, but not the new Pele like the Press is saying."

Claudio Coutinho said that Brazil succeeded in beating the South Americans and now he wants to test his new side against the Europeans. He has a "special spy," a man who is now the official Brazilian observer of the main national teams. This man is Jairo dos Santos, a naval engineer with a degree in coaching obtained in England.

Senhor Santos said that he worked with the German Hennes Wessweiler. For him the best teams in the world now are: Brazil, Argentina, Holland, Italy, Germany and England. About the English Jairo dos Santos said that their problem is that they have only two outstanding players: Kevin Keegan and Trevor Francis. It seems that Coutinho has the same opinion.

When Brazil beat Uruguay 5-1 they completed 10 years and eight months without defeat in Maracana. During this period they played there 45 times, winning 33 matches and drawing 12, scoring 95 goals against 29. The last defeat was against Mexico (1-2) on 10 October 1968.

Zico signed a new one year contract with Flamengo. He will receive about 450,000 cruzeiros (£10,000) per month. The highest salary in Latin America.

* * *

After 52 matches undefeated Flamengo were beaten by Botafogo 1-0 in a match with an attendance of 139,098 spectators in Maracana. Coutinho's team were trying to overcome the Brazilian record of 52 matches without defeat established by Botafogo in the Sixties.

* * *

Botafogo and Vasco are leading the Rio de Janeiro Championship. Flamengo are in second place.

Pele receives a UNICEF award in Madrid.

by Jan Hermen de Bruijn

AJAX are back in their old habit of winning.

The 1978-79 season has been one big triumph for the team from Amsterdam, winning both the Cup and league-title.

In the last 16 matches of the league schedule, Ajax drew only three times, winning the remainder of their matches in a style reminiscent of their way of playing in the 1970-73 period.

Ruud Krol is now their most important man (he will stay in Amsterdam and signed a new three-year contract) but the real strength of the team is the collective way of playing.

The defenders, midfield players and strikers all have the ability of running without the ball, creating opportunities for each other.

A perfect example of a player who is very useful to his colleagues is English-born Ray Clarke, the centre-forward bought this season from Sparta Rotterdam for a fee of £200,000.

Clarke himself scored 38 goals this season (26 in the league, six in the Dutch Cup and six in the European Cup) but also creates more chances for his team-mates than his predecessor Ruud Geels (now Anderlecht).

The result is that Soren Lerby (16 goals), Frank Arnesen (13), Tscheu-la Ling (14) and Dick Schoenaker (7) are also in the top-scorer list.

Johan Cruyff was one of the first people who observed that Clarke was someone with this special capacity; he talked with Clarke and Ajax-trainer Cor Brom (a trainer in Holland is the same as a manager/coach in England) and convinced them of this 'new way of playing'.

Brom and Clarke were heavily criticised by the board of directors of Ajax; their chairman, Mr. Harmsen, in particular, held the opinion that Brom and Clarke were not good enough for a team with the eminent reputation of Ajax.

But when Ajax clinched the championship, after a 1-1 draw with AZ '67 Alkmaar, and then completed the 'double', he called-off a proposed press conference. His fellow members of the board convinced him that it was 'impossible' to fire a trainer who won the 'double' and sell the topscorer of the club; Brom and Clarke will now stay in 'The Meer', the Ajax stadium, for at least two years.

It was a busy week for Ajax, because earlier they won the Cup in a replayed Final against FC Twente Enschede.

The Cup does not have the same tradition and importance in Holland as the English FA Cup. The only reason all the clubs are interested in winning is that it guarantees playing in Europe.

In the first round of the competition only the 19 clubs from the Second Division participate, together with nine amateur teams. In the Second Round the 18 teams from the First Division join in.

To reach the finals Ajax played against second Division EVV Eindhoven (home win, but only 3-2) and Roda JC Kerkrade (home 3-0). The quarter- and semi-finals are on a home and away basis; Ajax beat Fortuna SC Sittard 2-0 twice, then Volendam 3-3 and 1-1 (Ajax going through on away-goals).

FC Twente had a much heavier programme. First SC Veendam (4-1 at home), then away against FC Den Haag (The Hague) (2-2, Twente winning after a penalty-decider). Then came AZ'67 Alkmaar (1-1, 2-0) and PSV Eindhoven (4-2, 0-1).

The final, played in the Feyenoord Stadium, ended in a 1-1 draw. Twente were 1-0 up after only 14 minutes when Meutstege hammered the ball home past his own goalkeeper (Schrijvers) as he misjudged a cross from Jaap Bos (a right winger and the best man on the field).

But Ajax equalised just before half time; Twente goalkeeper André van Gerven fouled Frank Arnesen and Clarke scored from the spot.

The replay was also in the Feyenoord Stadium, two weeks later. This time the match attracted a crowd of 29,214 (the first gate was 29,503).

The line-ups were:

Ajax: Schrijvers, Meutstege, Krol, Wijnberg, Everse, Schoenaker, Arnesen, Lerby, Ling (Erkens, 80 min.), Clarke, Tahamata.

FC Twente: Van Gerven, Strijdveen (Lindsted, 69 min.), Drost, Overweg, Zonderwan, Otto, van der Vall, Pahlplatz, Bos, Gritter, Thoresen.

This time Ajax were much the better team. Twente had no chance. The first goal was scored (again!) by Clarke when he met a cross from Arnesen after 26 minutes.

After half time Simon Tahamata (a Moluccan-born, small, but very popular new international of Ajax) hammered a 30-yard shot to make it 2-0 after minutes; Dick Schoenaker scored the third with a diving header.

After the match the Twente players admitted that they were not even very disappointed. Goalkeeper Van Gerven: "They were so much the better team; we were in with no chance at all."

Other results of the 1978-79 league season:

- **FC VV Venlo and FC Volendam were relegated.**
- **Excelsior Rotterdam got promotion.**
- **Four other teams play a special competition for the second promotion place. They are FC Groningen, Fortuna SC Sittard, Telstar Ijmuiden and Willem II Tilburg.**
- **The top of the topscorer list: 1. Kees Kist (AZ '67) 34 goals; 2. Ray Clarke (Ajax), 26; 3. Theo de Jong (Roda JC) 20; 4. Lerby (Ajax) 16; 5. Ling (Ajax), Gritter (FC Twente) and van der Kuylen (PSV Eindhoven) all 15.**
- **Feyenoord Rotterdam and PSV Eindhoven play in the UEFA Cup next season.**

But Dutch football is not only about playing the game. A very important role is that of the directors, who meet frequently during the season. The most important reason for this is to talk about match-attendances which are simply insufficient for professional football.

An example. During the Whitsun weekend (the clubs playing on Saturday and Monday) the attendances were:

Volendam-Ajax (1-3, 16,000); PEC Zwolle-Vitesse (2-2, 3,000); NEC Nijmegen-GA Eagles Deventer (1-1, 3,500); FC Utrecht-VV Venlo (2-0, 1,750); Sparta Rotterdam-Haarlem (0-1, 1,500); MVV Maastricht-PSV Eindhoven (0-1, 6,500); NAC Breda-Feyenoord (0-0, 14,500); FC Den Haag-AZ '67 Alkmaar (3-2, 5,381); Twente Enschede-Roda JC Kerkrade (1-2, 4,000).

Volendam-FC Twente (5-0, 3,000); PSV Eindhoven-NEC Nijmegen (4-0, 19,000); Feyenoord-PEC Zwolle (3-1, 17,491); VV Venlo-MVV Maastricht (0-2, 1,000); Ajax-AZ '67 Alkmaar (1-1, 23,000); Vitesse-FC Utrecht (1-1, 8,000); GA Eagles-Sparta Rotterdam (5-3, 2,000); Roda JC Kerkrade-NAC Breda (3-1, 4,500) and Haarlem-FC Den Haag (3-1, 6,000).

So there were only 135,122 people at 18 matches, an average of 7,507 ... and this is clearly not enough.

Simon Tahamata, a new Dutch international, uses the national Cup as a hat against the rain.

Ajax clinch the 'double'

SCOTLAND HAT
OF 3-GOAL DEF

But the win in Norway is the most important Says ALEX GORDON

MY often misplaced loyalty has in the past led me into believing that Scotland could win the World Cup if all the games were played at Hampden.

I know now that that theory is a load of rubbish! Argentina, the present global masters, of course, well and truly shot that thought to smithereens with their performance in the Friendly match in Glasgow recently.

The statistics show that the South Americans became the third successive nation to notch up three goals and a victory over Scotland in consecutive Saturdays, following in the Welsh and English footsteps, but it doesn't tell you of the alarming gulf that has developed between the two countries in just over a year.

Remember Scotland actually held Argentina to a 1-1 draw before the World Cup Finals. There was just no way there was going to be a similar scoreline at Hampden. We competed for half an hour at the most and then it was a samba dance routine for the South Americans with wonderboy Diego Maradona, only 18, showing his electrifying skills and awesome talent.

Maradona — yet another youngster to be called "The New Pele" — scored the third goal with grace and artistry that not only had the Scottish defence going the wrong way, but the entire block of fans behind that goal, too.

Leopoldo Luque, a player who certainly knows how to look after himself, scored the other two goals and left the Scottish players demoralised and bemused and the fans absolutely breathless.

It was a classic case of men against boys. Scotland just weren't in the same class as the Argentinians who were without such players as Mario Kempes, Daniel Bertoni and Osvaldo Ardiles.

So, Scotland have problems at the moment. They went into the Home International Series full of hope, but there was to be no glory. Jock Stein said he would be experimenting in the matches and he certainly did that. He introduced players such as Iain Munro, the highly-skilled St. Mirren left-back, George Wood, the unpredictable Everton goalkeeper, George Burley, the raiding Ipswich right-back, John Wark, his Portman Road team-mate, Frank McGarvey, Liverpool's recent £300,000 signing from St. Mirren, Alan Hansen, another Anfield Scot, and Paul Hegarty, Dundee United's talented centre-back.

Stein must have been delighted with the style and polish shown by Munro, who played against Argentina and Norway although missing out on the Home Championship games. Other players, however, haven't done much for their reputations with lacklustre displays.

The first match of the five Scotland played recently was against Wales in Cardiff and it turned into a nightmare for the Scottish defence and a joy day for John Toshack, who couldn't have scored a more simple hat-trick.

Hegarty and Hansen were both to blame for the first goal and any understanding they had fell to pieces after that. Toshack, experienced enough to realise the lack of cohesion between the two players, capitalised fully with another two easily taken goals.

It was a woeful showing from the Scots. They just never got things moving at all and even allowing for the introduction of four players making their international debuts and the appearance of Ian Wallace, whose only other two runs in the full side have been as a late substitute there was little excuse for the lack of fight and fire.

Wales walked all over Scotland and must have been surprised and delighted at the lack of resistance. It was a pathetic team display. Changes were made, of course, for the next match against the unexciting Northern Irish at Hampden.

Scotland won 1-0 with a late goal from Arthur Graham in a match that proved yet again that veteran Irish 'keeper Pat Jennings is still one of the best around. George Wood made his debut in that game and although he had a couple of shaky moments he finished the match looking confident.

He was desperate to play against England at Wembley. He was desperate when he did play against England at Wembley.

He has rightly accepted the blame of England's second goal. There have been some doubts about his late reaction to that half-hit effort from Peter Barnes that took an eternity to cross the line for the first goal and I've got admit he looked more then just a bit slow in coming off his line when Kevin Keegan went through to score that marvellous third goal.

Wembley nerves definitely got to the Everton 'keeper, but when all is said and done it must be admitted that he is young enough to play at international standard for years to come. Alan Rough will welcome the healthy rivalry, I'm sure.

The unfortunate Wood was directly in line for criticism after the Wembley flop, but there were a lot of other players who escaped when they should have been slammed.

Graeme Souness was abysmal against England. The class that he undoubtedly possesses was never in evidence. He never got going and allowed his English counterparts time and space in this vital area of the park.

He took a leg knock a couple of days after Wembley while playing for Liverpool in Israel. It meant he would have to withdraw from the Scottish squad for the matches against Argentina and Norway, but there was little to suggest he would have been playing in these games anyway.

John Wark scored the opening goal against England and every Scot thought it was going to be a Wembley wonderland again, but apart from that goal the Ipswich midfielder had a poor game. He dropped out of things alongside Souness in the second-half when the Scots were looking for men of conviction and courage.

Were Scotland so good in the first-half? Or were England so bad? I've wondered about that. Certainly the Scots wanted to take the game to Ron Greenwood's side in the first 45 minutes. They were aggressive and tenacious and Arthur Graham was shaping to have a cracker of a game on the right wing.

Kenny Dalglish, too, looked good in a withdrawn role. He had a fair bit of freedom and he used it well. After the interval Greenwood changed things within his side . . . and Scotland just couldn't get a grip of the match again.

Little Steve Coppell must really love playing against the Scots. He must be under the impression that he just has to turn up, hang about the 18 yard box and he will be presented with a goal from the Scots goalkeeper.

Last year he did virtually nothing all day at Hampden until minutes from the end when Alan Rough fumbled a cross from Barnes while challenged by Trevor Francis and Coppell was all on his own as he

T-TRICK BATS

first-timed it back into the net for the only goal of the game.

This year it was just as well gift-wrapped. The Scottish defence looked positively slow in realising the danger when Mick Mills lashed the ball across from the left wing and Ray Wilkins was allowed to drift inside Frankie Gray and have a go at goal.

Wood dived to his right, got his body behind the ball . . . and then unaccountably dropped it at the feet of Coppell who must have thought it was a case of *deja vu*. Anyway, it didn't stop him from plonking it straight in the back of the net and after that the Scottish heads went down.

There was no one out on the park big enough to motivate them back into the match. The Scottish game fell away completely and Gordon McQueen and Wood must have been the only Scots at Wembley not to realise that goal No. 3 was coming up when Keegan started his run at the defence from just inside the Scottish half.

Keegan was positive in thought and action. McQueen was left looking on as he sped into the danger area, played the one-two with Trevor Brooking and was allowed a bit more time courtesy of Wood than he should have got before stroking the ball into the net. And that, quite simply, was that!

Scotland's dumbfounded fans wondered why a substitute wasn't sent out at some stage in the second-half when it was obvious the game was slipping away and a fresh face would have been welcomed.

A week later it was the turn of Argentina to ram three goals into the Scottish net. Stein decided to play Rough in goal in the first-half and Wood in the second half and the experience will do neither 'keeper any harm.

A diabolical feature of this match was the jeering of Kenny Dalglish every time he got the ball. I know Kenny has been slated from all angles. People keep saying he doesn't produce his club form when he plays for his country, but I still feel some fans are looking for far too much from the player.

I sincerely believe he is one of the best British players of all time. Unfortunately for him, I think his true worth to the team will be noticed when he is not there. The fans who got on his back at Hampden will probably be the same morons who will sigh sometime in the future: "I wish we had another Kenny Dalglish."

Dalglish wanted to play against the Argentinians. There was prestige involved and he wanted to play for his country. Okay, he wasn't impressive, but I wouldn't imagine it would be easy to raise your game while the best part of a 65,000 crowd are jeering your every move.

There are other Scottish players who constantly escape the scathing comments from the fans as they channel all their abuse in Dalglish's direction. Four managers — Tommy Docherty, Willie Ormond, Ally MacLeod and Jock Stein — have all selected him to play for his country. They can't all be wrong.

Argentine manager Cesar Luis Menotti and centre forward Leopoldo Luque training at Hampden Park.

I was delighted to see him setting up the 4-0 victory over Norway in Oslo several days after the Argentinian walloping. Again he didn't completely dominate the match the way he can, but he played the key role in securing two precious points that keep Scotland's European Championship hopes very much alive.

He made the first goal for Joe Jordan and scored the second with the type of move that is swiftly becoming his trademark. He turned his marker, moved into the box and simply sent a whiplash shot zipping past the helpless 'keeper Tom Jacobson, into the net.

It was all over then and there. Minutes after Dalglish's goal John Robertson popped up on the right side to squeeze in a third and early in the second-half Gordon McQueen got the fourth with a typical header from a corner on the left.

That was Stein's seventh game in charge of Scotland in his build-up for the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain. It was his third victory. The other four games have all been lost. So far Scotland have scored ten goals and conceded 12. Not particularly impressive statistics.

What was a lot more impressive, however, were the displays of Iain Munro in the No. 3 shirt. I've always liked the look of the former Hibs and Rangers player. At 27, success has possibly come late for an outfield player, but with his brilliant showings against Argentina and Norway he could solve Scotland's left-back problem for quite a while.

And you can forget all the talk about Scotland being world-beaters against the Norwegians. I thought England went a bit overboard after their 3-0 victory over a below average Bulgarian side. So, too, did the Scots the following evening after their performance in Oslo.

Norway are a poor side with only a couple of players worth talking about. Svien Mathisen, who had a short and controversial spell with Hibs during the season, looked clever, but they never looked sharp enough to put a lot of pressure on Scotland.

Remember, too, they did hit the woodwork twice with efforts that left Rough looking on in admiration. So, it could have been a lot tighter than a bald scoreline suggests.

The main thing is that Scotland got the two points they needed. That game in Oslo was by far the most important of the five played recently. Certainly there would have been more prestige in beating England and Argentina, but, really, it wouldn't have meant much in the form of tangible rewards. The 4-0 win is the lifeline Scotland were looking for in their fight to get to Rome for the Finals of the tournament next year.

A lot will happen before that becomes fact, but Scotland can be fairly happy in the knowledge that they have still to play Austria, Belgium and Portugal all at Hampden as well as the Belgians away in their remaining four games.

Before Scotland can think of taking on these teams with confidence they had better start thinking hard about their future line-ups. Jock Stein selected SEVEN of the players who had played against Holland in Cordoba last year for the Oslo game.

DIFFICULT TO PLAY AGAINST BAD PLAYERS

ERIC BATTY explains why

COACHES and managers have often been quoted as saying that it is eay to play with good players, though no one ever explains why. But I also believe that it is difficult to play with bad players, and also, perhaps surprisingly, difficult to play against bad players.

It is difficult to play against bad players in both the collective sense and also as individuals.

To illustrate this, I recall when coaching a team in the London Spartan League we played at home to one of the lesser sides and thrashed them 9-0.

Two months later we were away to the same side, and they played with a goalkeeper; nine men in their own penalty area (who would not come out) and a lone centre forward.

They never got the ball in our penalty area: never had a shot at our goal, and we had all the play. Yet in spite of a constant bombardment of their goal the result was a 0-0 draw.

We did get the ball in their net once, when we staged a good move down our right involving four players and this ended with our right back running the ball to their goal line about four yards from the near post, then pulling the ball back away from goal. We scored, and despite the fact that the right back had been carried off the pitch by his momentum and was obviously not interfering with play, the referee disallowed the goal because he said quite wrongly in my view the right back was offside.

Example

It is also difficult to play against bad players as an individual. As an example from my own career, years ago in the now defunct Corinthian League, I was a full back or centre half, and trying to anticipate what opponents would do, I would try to cut out their passes.

With an inside right in possession facing me at left back, my winger would drop deep looking for a pass and I would go forward, trying to position myself so that I could cut out the pass to my winger's feet, but also be wary and be ready to turn to cut out the through pass laid inside me, for the winger to run on to.

Both moves would have been good ones, and if theplayer with the ball did either of these things, I was well positioned to cut them out.

But if it was a poor player who had the ball, he would not see these passes, and would either hit a long ball down the middle, or set off on a dribble, and in each case he caught me out of position. He had not recognised the advantages he had with his winger against me, giving him two against one.

Since then I have often seen good First Division players with the ball, throw a nice feint to send an opponent the wrong way, but the 'poor' opponent does not see the feint and therefore does not buy it, with the result that the skilful player, trying to regain his balance and go by him the other way, often runs into the opponent who unknowingly obstructs him.

I could give many more examples, but by now it will be clear that it is difficult to play against poor players.

It is difficult to play 'with' poor players, partly because they do not see good passing opportunities to a well placed colleague and also because, even if they see them, they do not have the skill to get the ball there at the right time, and at the right pace.

Tackle

I have seen good inside forwards, or midfield players as they are now known, being played out of the game by their own poor colleague. If they win the ball in a tackle, they are often forced to try and dribble past two or three opponents, merely because no one comes to take up a good position to receive a pass, and thereby run into trouble.

Without the ball, the good midfield player has even greater difficulty for he is dependent on his colleagues for a good service.

Countless times I have seen good midfield players struggle through a game, looking, and probably feeling, like the net in a tennis match. The player drops back, finding space in which he can receive a good pass as his side defends, but when the ball is won, the defender hits it long upfield. The good player is not out of position.

So now he sprints upfield trying to support his strikers, aiming for his colleague with the ball, to take an easy pass back in space and then lay on a good pass.

But the ball does not come because the player with the ball tries to dribble or fails to appreciate the player now in support. So the midfield player has sprinted back, and sprinted up again . . . all for nothing.

When his side's attack breaks down the ball by-passes him, and he is back again to square one. So the game goes on with long balls from both sets of defenders leaving the midfield players in good positions, but rarely able to get the ball. One must have sympathy for such a player because he has no chance to show his abilities playing in a bad side.

I have seen all the things already mentioned in professional football as well as in the amateur game.

A good, intelligent striker is just as badly off playing with poor players. He can break away from his marker as a wing colleague runs with the ball. The striker gets free, heading for an open space opposite the near post, but the good ball that he could score from does not come, because the poor player (the winger) doesn't see the opportunity, and either bangs over a cross to the far past or tries to dribble past one more man and loses the ball.

So playing against poor players is very difficult and playing with poor players is almost impossible. These two facts explain why so many players with clubs in Division Three and Four 'seem' to improve so quickly if they are transferred to a good team in a higher division.

Playing against better players they find their anticipation enables them to cut out 'good' passes, and once in possession, they have colleagues off the ball offering them good passing opportunities. And the good midfield player finds that with better players he gets a better supply of accurate passes, and the good striker gets the ball he expects, and can score from.

So by now it should be clear that it is difficult to play with bad players, and just as difficult to play against bad players.

Playing with good players makes the game so much easier in terms of the sheer hard running that a good player is unnecessarily forced to do in a bad team.

Level

This is one reason why it is easier to play with good players. At the highest level a really good player can almost walk around, yet play really well, because his colleagues make life so much easier for him.

In a good team, an intelligent defender, seeing a midfield colleague in trouble can come up in support and know he will get an easy ball laid back. From there he will find that he has perhaps five or six good passes open to him, and as Ron Greenwood has said: "The quality of the game depends on the number of options open to a player."

The midfield player now knows that when he drops back to make himself easy to find by a defensive colleague, he will receive a good pass when the ball is won. Then, when he turns, he will have colleagues in support if he is challenged quickly, so that he can pass; and if he has time to look and think, the players

Geoff Hurst, scorer of a hat-trick in the 1966 World Cup Final and now one of England's coaches with Ray Wilkins.

ahead of him will be making good, intelligent runs, looking for good passes.

A good pass is not necessarily a long kick from one side of the field to an unmarked colleague on the other wing, no matter how accurate the pass may be, though I have heard relatively uninformed spectators cry 'what a ball'. The really telling passes are those that cut out opponents, and leave them temporarily out of the game.

For example, if a midfield player or defender with the ball, can look upfield beyond up to four or five opponents and pick out a striker up front and playing the ball over the heads of midfield men, drop a nicely paced ball in, just right for the colleague up front to receive, that is a great ball. It cuts out those four or five midfield opponents, leaving them for dead because they cannot now interfere with the attack as it carries on.

Marked

The real secret of good football is to play accurate passes to colleagues who are marked, but so often players and spectators are looking for a man who is unmarked to pass to.

A good player, in a good team, will get the ball, look up and see a colleague who is marked but in a dangerous position.

That colleague, being a good player looks around for a suitable space in which to receive a pass, then looks at the man with the ball.

They have both seen that space, their eyes meet, and pop, away goes the ball accurately delivered into that space at the right time with the right degree of pace, and as it arrives, there is the forward colleague getting there just as the ball arrives, and depending on the circumstances, perhaps able to shoot first time on the turn, or, if he has gained a yard or so on his marker by surprising him when he sprinted away, he can turn and either pass to a better placed colleague or shoot himself.

The really great player stands out in any company, but he can only dictate the game if he is surrounded by good players. In a good team the star says 'give me the ball' and knows that the player who gave it to him will then make a run, taking his marker away and leaving a space that the star can play the ball through.

Now he looks up to see the centre forward and says 'come to meet this and lay it back first-time' and plays a nicely judged ball up the middle, and then perhaps shoots on the volley as the centre forward lays it back nicely, just as the star knew he would.

A great example of this apparent telepathy that all the great players have was provided in the 1966 World Cup Final. England were losing 1-0 to West Germany when England got a free kick. Bobby Moore took the kick and lobbed it up into space at the near post. Geoff Hurst, positioned at the far post, sprinted across the face of the goal to meet the ball with his head and deflect it into the net.

The German goalkeeper Hans Tilkowski was fuming. I could imagine him asking his colleagues: "How did you let him get in there unmarked?"

The secret was that two good players looked around and saw the same space . . . and used it.

But in a lesser team, Moore could have hit the perfect free kick, but a less able player than Hurst would not have gone looking for that pass. So it was easier for Moore, playing with a good player.

On the other hand, Hurst could have seen that space and run there, but if it had been a lesser player taking the kick it would probably have gone to the far post (where Hurst was) . . . and been cleared.

So two very good players combined to create a very good goal. Just imagine what football could be like with eleven very good players. That is why it is easier to play with good players!

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Tarantini's new club

TALLERES — A UNIQUE CASE

TALLERES, the Argentine club which bought Argentine World Cup defender Alberto Tarantini from Birmingham City in April, are a unique case in soccer — not only in Argentina, but also in the rest of the world.

by ERIC WEIL

Where else do you have the strongest club in the country not in the first division? . . . or even the second, third or fourth. They merely play in a provincial league in Cordoba and it's like Liverpool playing in the Lancashire Combination.

Talleres had long been one of the strong Cordoba clubs, sharing most of the honours with local rivals Belgrano, but not until the formation of the national championship in 1967 did they really jump into the limelight by beating most of the first division big guns — something unheard of until then.

Two years ago there were unlucky not to win the national title after drawing twice with Independiente in the two-legged final and losing on the away goal rule. Last season they reached the semi-finals, but in both years, if not earlier also, they played some of the best soccer seen.

Deservedly they had three players in Argentina's World Cup winning squad last year — defender Luis Galván and mid-fielders Valencia and Oviedo — which again may be hard to believe for a team not even in the FA championship and this year, even more amazingly for non-leaguers, they have the biggest representation of any club in the current national squad.

Unlucky

In April Argentina played Bulgaria here, beating them 2-1. Two days later Talleres outplayed the Bulgarians in the same way (without their internationals who had played in the other match) and were unlucky to draw only 0-0.

In April also they added two more internationals to their professional staff — Tarantini and former winger Guerini (who had been playing in Spain) and they only failed to bring back another World Cup player from Europe — forward Daniel Bertoni — because Sevilla wanted over a million dollars.

Even that price did not put them off entirely. They had been prepared to pay close to a million dollars and the club's president, Amadeo Nuccetelli, merely returned home to think about it.

The national championship has brought many strong teams into prominence, but they have not been able to grow stronger beyond a certain level, because they found it financially impossible to maintain a strong team all the year to play in their provincial minor league and for just two months of national championship play. Talleres were, and continue to be, different.

An energetic board, headed by an enthusiastic president, have carried on strengthening the team in spite of uncertain financial returns. Luckily Cordoba fans have backed them all the way and even the biggest first division clubs in Buenos Aires envy the gates obtained by Talleres.

At the Argentine FA they are now also saying that Talleres should be in the first division and most clubs would welcome them, too, because of their big gates. But this is easier said than done. Any team entering the championships would, according to rules, have to start in the "semi pro" first division D (fourth). This Talleres cannot be expected to do, nor could they conform with the regulations governing this division. If, however, Talleres are put automatically into a higher division — and only the first would do — it would set a dangerous precedent a would mean that any club could, in futu buy itself into the top rank without gaini promotion. Teams fighting for promoti would rightly ask: "Why them and not us

It may happen fairly soon, however, in t only way possible — the reorganisation of t championships and the formation of a tr national first division — a sort of prem league — which, as in other countries, ma smaller clubs are fighting against for obvio reasons. But it will have to come soon for t good of Argentine soccer . . . and FA offici know it.

MISSING FEW

IT MAKES YOU WONDER . . . about all those high *Bundesliga* gates frequently reported (writes Keir Radnedge).

A colleague asked me after my return from Munich and the Champions' Cup Final why he had read so many different crowd estimates in the newspapers — and so many high ones, when television had clearly shown some yawning gaps in the terraces.

The official figure released for the Nottingham Forest-Malmö game was 68,000. But that wasn't the actual number of people who turned up — it was the number of tickets sold.

West German grounds such as the Olimpiastadion don't have turnstiles, therefore attendances have to be calculated in other ways.

Ticket sale is the usual one, but as in the Champions' final it's clearly false. I thought there were about 55,000 fans there, some 23,000 below the capacity.

Who buys a ticket and doesn't use it? In many cases travel firms, who take a high allocation of tickets so as to be sure they can satisfy the demand on their package trips. But, for example, Malmö returned about 7,000 of their allocation of 17,000 because the cost of the trip was beyond many fans.

Then again, other tickets find their way to agencies in the host country. Without any German interest this time, quite a few clearly remained in circulation after the match had begun.

Alberto Tarantini

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Club Focus on Nottingham Forest

CLOUGH AND HIS MODERN FIRSTS

by Keir Radnedge

NOTTINGHAM FOREST'S European Cup triumph was made all the more remarkable by their recent rise from the obscurity of the Second Division.

And though they had been in Europe before, both their previous campaigns in the 1960s had been short and far from sweet.

In 1961-62 in the Fairs' Cup, they went out in the first round to Espanol Barcelona, losing both ties, 2-0 and 5-1. Then, in 1967-68, they made only slight progress, going out on the away goal after beating Zurich 2-1 at home in the second round but losing 1-0 in Switzerland.

The first round provided a surprising victory over Eintracht Frankfurt, Forest winning 1-0, 4-0 — along the way, incidentally, making good use of *World Soccer*, by reprinting an article about Frankfurt which had recently appeared in these pages!

But that was the last chance anyone at Nottingham had to worry about keeping their fans informed on foreign visitors, for in 1972 they were down into the Second Division and looking likely to stay there . . . until Brian Clough came along.

By while Clough had led Forest to some modern firsts — their first League title, their first League Cup wins, English football's first £1 million transfer — it's not only in this century that the club from Robin Hood country have paved the way.

For example, in 1878 Forest's England international Sam Widdowson became the first player to use shinguards; in 1878 it was at a Forest game that a referee first used a whistle; in 1885 they became the first team to line up three half backs; in 1891 it was Forest who introduced the crossbar instead of a tape as well as oval goalposts.

Those years were among the most important in Forest's history, whatever the ballyhoo about the European Cup might have you believe. For it was in 1889 that the club went professional, becoming founder members of the Football League three years later.

Forest's record of being in on the start of organised football in not only Britain but the world is enviable — and frequently unrecognised. When, after the 1-0 win over Malmö in Munich, many observers were decrying their victory as one for upstart provincials in a bad year for the competition, they were ignoring the club's proud tradition.

For Forest are the third oldest club in the English league, having been founded in 1865, which puts them behind only neighbours Notts County and Stoke (Forest incidentally, are just outside the old Nottingham boundary, while County, the other side of the Trent, are just inside).

It was at a meeting in a pub called the Clinton Arms that Forest came to life, created by a group of young men who had previously concentrated on shinney, a form of hockey. They chose the Forest Racecourse for their home — the first of seven grounds until they settled in 1898 at what is now the City Ground.

What would those early founders have thought if they had been told that one day their club would spend nearly £3 million, as Forest are now, on a new stand?

It's interesting to note also, that in the case of Forest the use of the word 'club' is far more justified than for any one else. For Forest are the only one of the 92 League sides who are not a limited liability company. Instead they are run by a committee elected by the 200 members, with Stuart Dryden the present chairman in the middle of a three-year term of office.

In those early years it was the FA Cup which dominated. Forest set a record which still stands for the highest away win in the competition when they beat Clapton 14-0 in 1891. They also claim to be the only club to have met opposition from all the four home countries in the Cup, though in terms of real success they are struggling.

Only twice have Forest won the oldest of the world's great tournaments. The first time was in 1898, when they beat Derby 3-1, the second time in 1959, when they defeated Luton 2-1 at Wembley despite losing goal scorer Roy Dwight with a broken leg.

Already three players had entered the club's legend. One was Grenville Morris, who played from 1898 up until 1913, scoring 199 goals in the League; a second was Frank Forman, who won nine caps for England after joining from Derby in 1895. They had taken over as heroes after the retirement in 1892 of Tinsley Lindley, a brilliant centre forward but whose legal career was even more impressive, as he was a doctor of la and became a county court judge!

The early years were tremendous, the la few years have been exhilarating. But the were a lot of gloomy times in between.

Since the turn of the century Forest ha vacillated between the divisions. In the 193 their only moment of fame was one the don't like to recall — a 9-1 beating b Blackburn in 1937. And after the war, i 1949, they slipped into the Third Divisio

It took two years to step back up agai shrewdly guided by manager Billy Walke He had been one of the great inside lefts wit Aston Villa in the late 1920s, winning 18 ca for England. And his record of continuity a Forest manager would be unthinkab today. Walker was appointed in 1939 an remained until his retirement in 1960, whe he became a member of the club committee

The first star player of Walker's reign wa Wally Ardron. He was a lively centr forward who had been signed fro Rotherham, and in that promotion year c

Trevor Francis scores the winning goal.

1951 he scored a season's record of 35 goals as Forest took 70 points from 46 games.

That year was notable for another reason. It saw the first appearance of a tough Scottish centre half named Bobby McKinlay, who would play a club record 614 games in the following 18 years.

McKinlay was a key man as Forest went on up into the First Division in 1957, and he was there to claim his winner's medal after the FA Cup win in 1959.

But Forest would go on improving. In 1967 they weren't so far from the coveted Double. But in both League and Cup they slipped in the closing stages. In the First Division they had to settle for runners-up spot behind Manchester United, and in the Cup their dreams ended with a semi-final defeat by eventual winners Tottenham.

The future did not look encouraging. After Walker's retirement managers had come and gone fairly regularly. Andy Beattie, John Carey, Matt Gillies, Dave Mackay, then Allan Brown.

In 1974 the one remaining player of star quality, controversial Duncan McKenzie, was sold to Leeds and Brian Clough for £240,000. There seemed little ambition left at Forest.

And yet, later that same season came the first glimmer of hope, in the appointment of the same Clough, as manager. He had done well with Hartlepool, triumphed with Derby, achieved apparently little for Brighton and been sacked after a disastrous 44 days at Leeds.

He was a national figure — his face, voice and views appearing in almost every newspaper and with overkill regularity on television. Clough had become less a man, more an image.

But just as Forest got their feet back on the ladder with Clough, so Clough — soon to be joined by his old partner Peter Taylor — got his feet back on the ground at Nottingham.

The television and newspaper appearances were dramatically cut back as the former Middlesbrough, Sunderland and England centre forward concentrated on Job No. 1 — being a football manager.

It was slow going. But the miracle which he had worked at Derby — taking them from the depths of the Second Division to the top of the First — worked again. To help him Clough brought to Nottingham two of his most loyal players, John McGovern and John O'Hare.

His very name put up attendances, though nothing near the increase Clough thinks his team deserve.

It was in 1977 that Forest, winning the Anglo-Scottish Cup as a warm-up for greater things to come, gained promotion from the Second Division. But only just. Benefiting from three-up, three-down they scraped into third place with 52 points, just one ahead of Bolton and Blackpool. Next year Brighton would discover that 52 points wasn't enough!

In 1978 came the treble triumph over Liverpool. First Forest, with a team made up with several reserves because of injuries and Cup-tied regulations, beat Liverpool 1-0 in the League Cup Final replay. Scotland World Cup winger John Robertson was the scorer, from a controversial penalty conceded by Phil Thompson.

Then, in the League, Forest took the Anfield men's crown, and followed up by knocking them out of the Champions' Cup!

Insatiable as ever, they have since retained the League Cup by beating Southampton, finished runners-up in the League, and won the Champions' Cup.

Clough's achievements speak for themselves and it is the manager who is the star at Forest. More than any player, even Francis or Shilton, it is Clough who commands the adulation.

He and Taylor have recently signed new four-year contracts. It's a sign they're sure Forest can spend more money on the team, and a sign too that they intend to go on setting records such as the recently-achieved 42-game unbeaten League run.

Founded: 1865.
European Cup: 1979.
First Division: 1978. Runners-up: 1967, 1979.
FA Cup: 1898, 1959.
League Cup: 1978, 1979.
Anglo-Scottish Cup: 1977.
Chairman: Stuart Dryden.
Manager: Brian Clough.
Asst manager: Peter Taylor.
Captain: John McGovern.
Ground: City Ground (49,000 capacity).
Colours: Red and white.

THE PLAYERS

Peter Shilton. Goalkeeper. Aged 29, played 26 times for England. Cost £250,000 from Stoke in September, 1977, having begun as a teenage wonder with Leicester, where he succeeded Gordon Banks (who also went to Stoke). Shilton appeared to lose his early brilliance after letting Domarski's shot go under his body when Poland scored that all-important 1-1 draw in the World Cup qualifier at Wembley in 1973. However the self-belief instilled by Clough and Taylor turned him into a man they now describe as "the best goalkeeper in the world."

Chris Woods. Goalkeeper. Aged 19. England youth international. Woods gained the unique record of appearing at Wembley — and gaining a League Cup winner's medal — without having played a League game, when he faced Liverpool in 1978 because Shilton was Cup-tied. Woods was outstanding both at Wembley and in the Old Trafford replay. Having been born at Swineshead near Boston, and joining Forest in 1976, he is known to be worried about being permanent understudy to Shilton and may soon move on.

Viv Anderson. Right back. Aged 22. Became the first black player to appear in a full international when he made his England debut against Czechoslovakia last autumn. Born in Nottingham and joined Forest as an apprentice in 1972. Nicknamed Spider he made his debut in 1974, but only became a regular in the promotion season. Outstanding attacking player, though sometimes found wanting in defence.

Larry Lloyd. Central defender. Aged 28, played three times for England. Born in Bristol, and cost Liverpool £60,000 when they signed him in 1969 from Bristol Rovers as eventual replacement for Ron Yeats. Gained European experience with Liverpool before injury cost him his place. Went to Coventry for £250,000 but couldn't settle and joined Forest in November 1976 after a spell on loan. Now well past 300 League appearances.

Kenny Burns. Central defender. Aged 26, played 12 times for Scotland both in defence (as in the 1978 World Cup) and in attack. A controversial teaserway constantly in trouble with referees while with Birmingham, Burns has been a reformed player at Forest, becoming Footballer of the Year. Well over 200 League games and a bargain at £150,000.

Frank Clark. Left back. Aged 36. Left Newcastle on a free transfer in 1975 after 13 years regular service at St James' Park which included a Cup Final appearance in 1974 — which he then thought was his last chance of a big Cup Final! Born in Durham, Clark gained a Fairs' Cup-winner's medal while with Newcastle and not only added to his European experience with Forest, but also grabbed his first-ever goal. It came in his 486th League game, against Ipswich!

Colin Barrett. Left back. Aged 28. Cost £30,000 from Manchester City in March 1976 when it appeared his early potential might not be fulfilled. Had played in attack for City at first, but has settled at full back with Forest. Missed the League Cup win over Liverpool because of injury, and has since been troubled by more fitness problems.

Dave Needham. Central defender. Aged 29. Signed as a stop-gap in autumn 1977 for £140,000 after injury to Lloyd. Was popular in Nottingham already from a 10-year spell with Notts County before he moved briefly to London with Queen's Park Rangers. Scorer of some vital goals, has played for England B.

Martin O'Neill. Midfield. Aged 26. Has played 27 times for Northern Ireland. Joined Forest from Distillery in 1971, while studying law at Queen's University, Belfast. Plays mostly on the right side in midfield and has proved an extremely skilful raider. Has played well over 200 games for Forest but missed a chance of playing in Munich because he wasn't match fit after injury.

John McGovern. Midfield. Aged 31. Club captain. Born in Montrose, had appeared in all four divisions by the time he was 20. Has been a key man for Clough at Hartlepool, Derby, Leeds and Nottingham and is one of the few players to have won League championship medals with two clubs. Thoughtful, calm general who has played well over 400 League games.

Ian Bowyer. Midfield. Aged 28. Nicknamed Bomber, made his first impression as a goalscoring teenager with Manchester City in 1969-70. Moved the following season to Orient after it appeared he had run out of steam, and was their leading scorer in his first season. Dave Mackay signed him for Forest in October 1973 and he has played not only in midfield but at right and left back. Scored the vital goal which won the Champions' semi-final second leg away to Köln.

Trevor Francis. Midfield and attack. Aged 24, with 12 England caps. Cost £1 million when signed from Birmingham at the start of February — England's first seven figure player. Had made his second division debut at 16, earning the nickname Superboy after scoring four times against Bolton. His goals kept Birmingham in the first division, though several times he tried to obtain a transfer. Will miss the first two rounds of next season's Champions' Cup defence

● Continued on page 15

EURO SEEKS

ERIC BATTY SAYS

THE three European competitions reached their climax and passed into the history books without ever promising to bring a smile back to the face of soccer.

Barcelona-Fortuna Dusseldorf was probably the best final from an entertainment viewpoint, but in fact both sides were quite ordinary, and in what I call EC1, the First Division of Europe, the final turned out to be a disaster.

True, I under-estimated how good Malmo FF were at giving nothing away, even though I had the advantage of a long chat with a friend who saw the FK Austria-Malmo semi-final in Vienna.

"The 70,000 Wiener fans jeered the Swedes off the park," my friend told me, "because they did not have even one shot at goal."

The final in Munich was almost as bad, except that Kenny Burns mis-cued an easy ball to let Jan-Olof Kinnvall in for a real chance, a clear look at Peter Shilton. Typically, Kinnvall headed the ball straight up into the air, perhaps surprised that the chance should have come, and Shilton did the rest by robbing the Swede.

But the fact is that Malmo only had a defence and a midfield, and underlining what I said a year ago, there is not one outstanding team on the continent at the moment, which allowed the very poor Swedes to reach the final.

Grim watching

Malmo boss, Englishman Bob Houghton, has a good record since he took over but that only suggests that the Swedish domestic game must be pretty grim watching.

Houghton's friends, and no doubt a good many Swedes, will feel he did well to get his troops to Munich, but I think it was a disgrace and an indictment of European soccer generally that such a bad side could go so far.

No doubt Houghton really hoped to beat Forest and win the big pot, and with Forest well below par, just one good attacking player might have done it for him. But overall, the Swedes got what they asked for as they had no ideas at all in attack — which is what the game is about.

We have thousands of FA Prelim qualified coaches who could work with a side for four years and do what Malmo did. The tricky bit in the game is getting your side to play good attacking football . . . and make it pay.

Forest would have been much better if Archie Gemmill had been fit to play for he is a fine player with good skill and a lively mind. He also works like a horse, and in the hurly burly of midfield where Malmo tried to stifle Forest, Gemmill was sadly missed. The Swedes would not have contained him and John Robertson as well as they tied up the Forest winger (with two men) had Gemmill played, for they could not have double-marked them both.

Let me say clearly that I quite like the way Forest play at full strength, with Tony Woodcock at his best, and add that I still have reservations about whether the £1 million paid for Trevor Francis will ever be justified.

Gemmill and Robertson are the key men behind the Forest attack normally and Bowyer never was good enough to fully replace the little Scotsman who in my view should have been the English Footballer of the Year for 1978 when Forest won the League and will probably never get the honour now.

But lacking Gemmill that left much on the shoulders of Robertson who dropped deep to be easy to find, but did not make much use of all the ball he saw. Malmo did a good job on him, rightly picking hi they key Forest player with Gemmill absent, but Robertson le Swedes deny him the outside space and let them force him to inside repeatedly and give off easy balls.

Alfredo Di Stefano would never have allowed two opponents to him dominating a game and there we have it in a nut-shell. Forest d have a truly great player. They have a lot of good ones and are a team but just like Liverpool they lack a really great one to lift the the heights.

Though I don't particularly like Francis, who in my book has a l skill but cannot *play*, he looked the liveliest Forest player in Mu He alone had the skill and pace to take his man on and go by him, of course he grabbed the vital goal.

But if Francis repaid some of his fee to Forest, this was a final will be very easily forgotten, just as I have already forgotten Liverpool-Bruges affair of a year ago, and it ranks with In diabolical 1-0 win over Benfica in 1965 as the worst final of all t

Forest v. Crvena Zvezda (Red Star, Belgrade) would have be much better game for if the Yugoslavs also know how to lock a g up, they do know how to come out and play when things have g wrong and they find themselves on the wrong end of a scoreline

But Malmo? Ugh! I hope I never seen them again. And Houghton can stay well away from me with his brand of unadulter 100 proof anti-football.

Positioned

EC2, the Second Division of European football, or the Cupwin Cup if you prefer, gave us a better final to watch, if only because it h few goals. But I would not rate either Barcelona (this season) or For Dusseldorf, who only qualified because 1st FC Koln took the double beat Fortuna in the German 1978 Cup Final.

Much was expected of Klaus Allofs, top scorer in the *Bundeslig* the time and his brother Thams, but as it turned out the big dri force behind Fortuna was Gerd Zimmermann.

The Germans played some neat football up to the penalty area though Artola in the CFB goal looked very dodgy, no one could ge better of the giant Spanish centre back Migueli, who is a very defender. Magnificent in the air, good on the ground and ab impeccably positioned, Migueli gave nothing away and to me wa star of the night.

Of course he didn't *look* as skilful as Carlos Rexach, as quick as winger Carrascosa, or as elegant as Hans Krankl . . . when he acce a gift goal from the left winger near the end. But Migueli was my for the reason why CFB won the Recopa as they call it.

BELOW: Barcelona fans welcome their team. RIGHT: Barcelona players return with the Cup Winners Cup.

E STILL S A MASTER

Tony Woodcock (left) and Kenny Burns with the European Cup.

To emphasise that neither of these sides are truly outstanding, both were well beaten en route to the final.

Barcelona lost 3-0 away to RSC Anderlecht (!), and also went down 2-1 away to Ipswich, where they showed nothing. And in the semi final they were even lucky to win at home with a very doubtful penalty against the part-timers from Belgium, Beveren SK.

Fortuna, only in as beaten Cup Finalists, went down away to Aberdeen and Banik Ostrava.

The final itself got off to a good start with early goals and though it was never what one would call a fine game, it was at least an open and interesting one until near the end when Barcelona really tied it up and put the result beyond doubt, following Carrascosa's fine run down the left, across the middle, and then, looking round well, found Krankl with a neat pass from which the Austrian bomber scored. Then the final died.

Hard man

In fact I made Barcelona winners the moment that Zimmerman had to go off for it was only his forays from midfield that really livened up the German attack and when he got clobbered that was the end.

Some of the Barcelona 'tackling' was a bit much, with Johan Neeskens as ever the hard man, and of course a weak referee who failed to stamp his authority on the proceedings. But then again, referees of this type are the norm these days, too. With regard to the Rexach penalty, I remember years ago that Pele was stopped from checking as he was about to take spot kicks as the Spaniard did. The referee should have ruled that the kick be re-taken and shown Rexach a yellow card, but in fact he did neither.

So without winning any medals from me, Barcelona finally won the Cup that 'made' the season for them, and if nothing else, at least both sides tried to play which is more than Malmo did in EC1.

In the EC3, the European Third Division, there were many quite good looking sides at the start, but for example Mario Kempes was a big flop for Valencia and the generally low level of the European game was highlighted by the fact that three of the four UEFA Cup semi finalists came from West Germany's *Bundesliga* and they were all in the bottom half of the current league table.

Arsenal fans will argue that they would have reached the final had Liam Brady not been sent off against Hajduk Split and therefore suspended against Red Star, but Valencia fans could just as well argue that their team would have done better if Kempes had not gone off the boil.

I hardly need remind regular readers that I was not over-impressed with what Kempes did in the World Cup, though many had a go at me for describing him as a hammer with skill. But to me the most disappointing side were West Bromwich who I saw do some fine things last season but failed against Red Star.

Red Star were beaten in the semi finals by Hertha 2-1 in Berlin but got through on the away goals rule after a 2-2 aggregate draw and they also came back from a 2-5 defeat away to Dynamo Berlin in the First Round. But Borussia Monchengladbach played right through the home and away competition, 12 games without a single defeat.

Of course, they are nothing like the side they were and Borussia were a bit lucky in their home leg to win 1-0 because they were forced to defend for long periods and only their woodwork saved them just as an own goal gave them a draw in Belgrade. Mind you, the flying header own goal in Yugoslavia would have made an excellent goal at the other end, but over the two legs they produced an interesting struggle.

In Belgrade, Monchengladbach showed everyone how to play keep ball. I remember seeing a Borussia player give a pass, sprint into space, get picked up and check out going back to look for an easy ball that was a lesson to everyone in reading the game, and Borussia who drew 1-1 were moral victors there.

In Dusseldorf, where Borussia entertained Red Star, the boot was on the other foot with Alan Simonsen scoring from a penalty that never was, and then the Yugoslavs threw the book at Monchengladbach.

The Yugoslavs did everything but score, and certainly deserved to win but Berti Vogts, playing in his last big game as a *libero* had a fine match and saved Borussia over and over again, even if he has lost the edge off his pace.

Vladimir Petrovic, who looked so good when he first came into the game two years ago, had not come on as he should have done, but as always the Yugoslavs were full of skill and invention. With a bit of luck they would have scored, and being the unfortunate victims of a penalty when Simonsen very clearly fell over the legs of a defender when he lost his balance, I made them moral victors.

Certainly Nottm. Forest versus Red Star would have made a much better big match in Munchen, but overall it is a fact that the European season was not a specially good one and I cannot see it being much better next season.

For 1979-80 the teams to beat will be Liverpool and Nottm. Forest in the hunt for the big cup, EC1, and with English club football in the driving seat that is bad news for European soccer.

But right now I cannot see any continental team beating them.

● *Continued from page 13*

because of an agreement to play in the NASL for Detroit. Scored the only goal in Munich with a diving header to a Robertson cross, to repay a substantial part of that £1 million investment. Clough and Taylor claim to have knocked "a lot of nonsense" out of Francis and turned him into a player who can be an England regular for years.

John O'Hare. Midfield. Aged 35. Has played 13 times for Scotland. Started with Sunderland before Clough signed him for Derby in 1967. Followed his manager on to Leeds, then Forest. Has scored more than 100 League and Cup goals.

Archie Gemmill. Midfield. Aged 32, has played 32 times for Scotland. Scored an outstanding goal against Holland in last year's World Cup as well as performing at his usual busy rate. An extremely hard worker who won two League titles with Derby before joining Forest in exchange for goalkeeper John Middleton in autumn 1977. Missed a chance of Munich glory after injury.

Tony Woodcock. Attack. Aged 22, has played three times for England. Local boy from Eastwood who has been a regular for more than two years and made his England debut against Wales a year ago. Had earlier impressed with five goals in two internationals for the Under-21s against Finland and Italy. Joined Forest as an apprentice in 1972 and very nearly went to Lincoln than Doncaster before regaining his best form at the start of the 1976-77 season.

Garry Birtles. Centre forward. Aged 22. Signed for £8,000 from Long Eaton after Forest heard a rumour that Manchester United wanted him. Had already been turned down after a trial with Aston Villa and was thinking of quitting Forest at the start of this past season when Peter Withe was sold to Newcastle. One of his first matches in the Forest senior team was in the Champions' Cup first leg against Liverpool and he scored the opening goal. Starred in the League Cup Final win over Southampton and, despite a comparatively late start in First Division football, is rated as England material.

John Robertson. Outside left. Aged 26. Has played twice for Scotland only, despite being a key man in Forest's recent successes with his skills on the left wing. Former Scotland schoolboy and youth international who joined Forest straight from school from his local club in Drumchapel. Of his 17 goals in 1977-78, some 10 came from the penalty spot.

Gary Mills. Forward. Aged 17. Youth international who is one of Forest's bright hopes for the future.

Vonlanthen

by Arthur Rotmil

THE SWISS Football Federation (SFV), tired of excuses for disappointing results of the national team and under pressure from fans and the media, chose the most convenient, if sole remaining course of action: they fired the national manager Roger Vonlanthen (48), after two years in office.

A series of defeats some of them "unlucky", others avoidable, has speeded the long awaited change in leadership. Vonlanthen failed to motivate the players, the internationals began losing confidence in the manager, whilst the Press, and TV reporters continued the campaign of denouncement which resulted in his departure. Vonlanthen's record of four wins, one draw and ten defeats (goal tally 11-25) has further sunk the prestige of the side among the fans who lost faith in their representatives, and stayed away.

The new man at the helm is Leon Walker (pronounced Val-ker), officially just in charge for the remaining three internationals of the season. This 41-year-old played for Young Boys and Sion and once in the national team. Between 1965-66 he managed FC Luzern; '66-70 the FC Sion. As a coach he gained every diploma at the SFV. In the past four years he has been in charge of the 'Under-21' and the B-teams. Walker is thus the 11th national team chief since 1960!

The new boss began like nearly all his colleagues — with a clear out. Five men who played v. Holland in the European Championship tie were left out from his first squad. The most interesting aspect of his selection was a drastic rejuvenation.

It is clear that Switzerland has no chance of qualifying for the European Championship finals and Walker has therefore sensibly opted for a rebuilding programme. The next World Cup in 1982 will feature 24 finalists and the Swiss hope that with solid preparation and given the luck of the draw, they might qualify.

Four new caps, *'libero'* Heinz Lüdi (21), forwards Thomas Zwahlen (21), Jean-Paul Brigger (22) and Herbert Hermann plus goalkeeper Berbig (25), midfiel Maissen and Tanner capped only before, were chosen. Walker has set hi two initial targets: firstly, he wants "as as possible" to find a team which w satisfy the public. He is anxious to restor lost goodwill of the fans. Secondly intends to lay a foundation toward buildi side for the World Cup qualifying mat

Not surprisingly, he has nomin several players whom he knows well leading the 'Under-21' and B-teams. W Walker achieved the first objective: whole country began talking about national team again. Walker demande his first match, a European Champion tie v. East Germany at St. Gallen, 90-minute fight, a disciplined and attac game without taking risks, but with concentration and 100 per cent effort"

Bad luck for the new coach that his

GERMANY TU WITH THREE S

THREE away wins in a row by the national side brought the international fixtures to a close this season and gave new hope to the West Germans that at last they've turned the corner. The gloom which descended after those insipid goalless draws with Malta and Turkey was dispersed thanks to the 2-0 victory over Wales (European Championship), the 3-1 against the Republic of Ireland and 3-1 v. Iceland (writes ARTHUR ROTMIL).

In the last two matches manager Jupp Derwall was able to experiment, as from the established team the Spanish "mercenaries" Rainer Bonhof and Uli Stielike were not available, while centre forward Klaus Fischer (Schalke) and full back Bernard Dietz (MSV Duisburg) were needed for rearranged League matches of vital importance to their relegation threatened clubs. Goalkeeper Burdenski (Werder Bremen) and forward Klaus Allofs (Fortuna Düsseldorf) left the party after the Ireland game, also because of club commitments.

So much for the hoary tale dispensed in a recent television programme "We were the champions" (BBC-2) claiming that in Germany the national side always comes first and that the club must release their players on demand.

In Dublin no fewer than five new caps were introduced — two more players made successful debuts in Reykiavik helping to restore the national side's prestige. Against Eire full back Bernd Förster 23, elder brother of the national stopper Karl-Heinz, striker Dieter Hoeness 26 (both from VfB Stuttgart) and midfielder Bernd Schuster 19 (Cologne) began the match, whilst midfielders William "Jimmy" Hartwig 24 and Casper Memering 25 (both Hamburger SV) came on in the 70th minute as substitutes.

In Reykiavik goalkeeper Harald Schumacher 25 (Cologne) in the second half and midfielder Jurgen Groh 22 (Kaiserslautern) from the start, celebrated their first appearance for their country. No other German team manager has ever launched so many newcomers in one match as Derwall had done against Eire. He was rewarded with a fine win — Rummenigge, Kelsch (who came on as substitute) and Hoeness scored the goals.

In Iceland, Kelsch and Hoeness (2) hit their three, so that Hoeness scored three goals in his first two internationals in a highly promising start for the younger brother of the famous World Cup star Uli, whom he will join in the summer at Bayern Munich.

Derwall was well pleased with the successful end to his first season in charge. Under his guidance the Germans were unbeaten in eight internationals — six of them away! Derwall is now looking forward to clinching a place in the finals of the European Championship. The squad has been enlarged, but also enriched by several players who have brought more character, style and commitment to the national side.

West Germany's new champions are Hamburger SV, who clinched their first title since 1960, the fourth overall, but first ever in the *Bundesliga*. It was a great triumph for their team manager, the Yugoslav Branko Zebec (50) in his first year in office. He brought a calming influence to the badly shaken team (only tenth last season) and organised the squad, who thanks to a consistent run-in at the finish deservedly won the championship.

Acclaim

England's international forward Kevin Keegan improved in the second half of the season to become the club's top scorer with 16 goals and won general acclaim in this country. First-class displays by internationals like keeper Kargus, Kaltz and Buljan (a Yugoslav) in defence, Memering and Hartwig (both recently capped) in midfield and Hrubesch in attack, have also been instrumental in Hamburg's title triumph. The sterling work of the backroom staff, the more professional attitude of the board and general manager Günter Netzer pulling the business strings, were also contributing factors to the success story.

The most disturbing aspect of the *Bundesliga* championship has been the dramatic rise in the number of sent off players. Kaiserslautern probably lost the chance of winning the title after three key men had been dismissed: defenders Hans-Günter Neues and Hans-Peter Briegel, as well as the international centre forward and top scorer Klaus Toppmöller.

The club wanted to punish the culprits, but having let off Briegel, they abstained fining Neues and Toppmöller £250 which will be the norm in the future. The was of course not so lenient — Toppmölle example was suspended for eight mat which is the usual "sentence" here for vi conduct, retaliation or dissent.

The deposed champions 1.FC (Cologne) also had two men sent off in match (at Hamburg); the internationals F (for a foul) and Neumann (dissent) and were suspended by their club immedia Cologne's players were very upset at lo the European Cup semi-final aga Nottingham Forest and having also b eliminated from the DFB-Cup three later, their mental anguish showed in following matches.

There was also talk of their coach He Weisweiler leaving for Barcelona, apparently he has agreed to stay on, at for another year. Weisweiler once coac Barcelona, but he left after com disagreements with the famous Dutch Johan Cruyff. Cologne are hoping strengthen their ranks through the aquisi of the Dutch World Cup forward René der Kerkhof, for whom PSV Eindhoven asking 2 million D. Marks (£500,000).

A pleasant surprise was in store for Bayern Munich management. Despite indifferent season, without Europ competition, the club reported an unexpe huge profit for financial year 1978. Baye gross takings amounted to £2.5 million. club's new president is Willi Hoffmann, former treasurer, who has taken over from toppled Wilhelm Neudecker.

Borussia Mönchengladbach finished season in a blaze of European glory ha won the UEFA-Cup for the second t (after 1975), by beating Red Star Belgr 1-1 and 1-0. This triumph was all the m remarkable since the club lost five key pla at the start of the season: Wimmer Wittkamp (returned to the amateur ran Heynckes (became the club's coach), Bon

fied — Walker in!

striker, the redoubtable Claudio Sulser (top scorer in the European Champions Cup with eleven goals) dropped out through injury, as did goalkeeper Erich Burgener. The team was changed in eight positions and the four new men made a most encouraging start. It was the greatest upheaval ever staged by a Swiss national coach as he sent out the youngest ever side (average age 23½) into battle.

The youngsters lost the match by 2-0, but earned unanimous praise from all sides. One cannot recall a match after which the losers got so much backslapping from their own critics. Walker became an overnight hit with the conservative Swiss who are ready to support the new boss.

The match v. East Germany was staged at St. Gallen in honour of the local club which is celebrating 100 years of existence. FC St. Gallen is the oldest club in the country and one of the oldest on the Continent. The Espenmoos Stadium is relatively small and the international was watched by a crowd of 9,000.

For the next match, another European Championship tie v. Iceland, Walker made one change in the squad — Gianpietro Zappa (23) from FC Zurich came in for In-Albon. But immediately before the match was due to start goalkeeper Berbig twisted his neck and had to give way to Walter Eichenberger (Young Boys) who at the ripe old age of 33 made his debut! Sulser was still missing but the new boys justified their selection and scored the goals: Herbert Hermann (27 mins.) and Zappa (53) to beat Iceland 2-0.

The Swiss, for so long starved of success, were genuinely delighted. A win, any win could not have come at a better time to boost morale. This match incidentally formed the prelude to the showpiece Argentina v. Holland staged as a repeat of the World Cup final to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of FIFA.

In the League championship Servette were still favoured to win their first title since 1962. If they succeed, it will be a personal triumph for their team manager Peter Pazmandy. This Hungarian-born coach settled in this country after the uprising in his homeland in 1956. Pazmandy was then touring Europe with the national youth squad, most of which settled in the West. Servette already clinched one trophy this season, the League Cup. This they won by beating Basel on penalties, after the scores after extra time remained 2-2.

FC Zurich were Servette's biggest rivals in the title race, but it was clear that the Geneva team was more consistent, it has greater depth in quality players and would be generally accepted as the best side in the land. Their midfield trio of Barberis, Andrey and Schnyder is being touted as the future midfield block in the national side.

UN THE CORNER
SCCESSIVE WINS

(sold to Valencia) and Vogts, who suffered a double fracture of the leg and was out of action between August and April.

The popular Berti returned just in time to help the club fight relegation (!) and he contributed to the success in the UEFA-Cup. Vogts (32) has now retired from active football and he was honoured by a testimonial match against the national side.

Departures

The UEFA-Cup was vital to Borussia who would have missed out on 'Europe' next term. Now, as holders (under a new rule), they can defend the trophy next season. And thus West Germany will be allowed to enter five clubs in the UEFA-Cup next time.

The country's most successful club on European ground this past term will again be badly hit by departures: Manager Udo Lattek is going to Borussia Dortmund, striker Allan Simonsen was sold to Barcelona, while Vogts, as mentioned, has retired to become the national 'Under-21' team's coach.

Germany's most popular club 'Schalke 04' are celebrating the 75th anniversary of their foundation. They too, were in deep relegation trouble until the last few games.

The seven-times champions became the last *Bundesliga* club to accept advertising on players' jerseys. They signed a three-year contract with a textile firm making T-shirts, for which the club will collect £450,000.

Up till now Schalke advertised the German Cancer Fund free of charge. The "Knappen", as they are popularly known, have made their first signing for the new season: Yugoslavia's "Footballer of the Year", defender Wilson Dzoni (ex-Dynamo Zagreb), holder of 15 caps, should strengthen the Schalke defence. Schalke's hero in the fight against relegation was international winger Rüdiger Abramczik, whose brilliant hat-trick virtually saved the club and condemned Arminia Bielefeld to the Second Division. The other promoted clubs Darmstadt and 1.FC Nürnberg are also relegated.

Another important move was that of the international centre forward Ronnie Worm (25) from MSV Duisburg to Eintracht Brunswick. Worm holds seven caps and he scored one of the goals (coming on as substitute) by which West Germany beat England 2-1 in Munich in February 1978. Worm cost Brunswick £290,000.

Hertha Berlin also bought an international, albeit a Turkish forward: Verel Engin (23) from Fenerbahce. He played in the international v. West Germany (0-0) last April and cost the Berlin club a modest £50,000. Hertha, heavily in debt, cannot afford bigger signings, unless they sell players first.

The first club to secure promotion was Bayer Leverkusen — the 35th club to enter the *Bundesliga* since its foundation in 1963. *Bayer* won the championship of the Second Bundesliga North with a huge points margin, but whether they can keep their place in the higher grade, which has become so competitive lately, is rather debatable. Bayer are really a works team from the world famous company which manufactures all kinds of medical supplies, especially aspirin tablets. The club is also renowned for many other sports sections and is in fact Europe's leading athletic organisation.

Harald Schumacher

Players call a half

● **IN PERU, a curious incident happened when players decided on a symbolic stoppage during all the matches of the national championship to protest against the jailing of three of their number implicated in the falsifying of passports of Peru's "junior" team at the South American Junior Championships in Uruguay earlier this year (for which the players blame the officials in charge).**

In the Sport Boys-Atletico Chalaco match, referee Cesar Pagano, complying strictly with the rules, sent off all 22 players and terminated the match. Although 20 minutes later it was continued under a reserve team referee who was at the ground, the referees association still argues that the match was over when the 22 players were sent off. . . .

Meanwhile last season's vice-champions, Universitario de Deportes, top the table by three points from Juan Aurich, but Alianza Lima, although having transferred several of the World Cup players which helped them to the 1977 and 1978 titles, are only four points from the top with a match in hand.

● **IN CHILE, Colo Colo and O'Higgins have won their first five matches in the first division championship, but the former lead by a bonus point obtained by reaching the semi-finals of a pre-season tournament — the same as Union Española and Cobreloa, while winners Universidad de Chile got two.**

Champions Palestino are only half-way down the table, but with a match in hand.

Polish Cup win for Arka Gdynia

IN the FA Cup Final in Poland, favourites Wisla Krakow, the 1978 champions, took an early lead through their international striker Kazimierz Kmiecik, but unfashionable Arka Gdynia finally won the trophy by two goals to one. Wisla are having a thin time this season, occupying 13th place in the 16 club First Division and with only six wins in 25 league outings are dangerously close to the relegation pair.

In the league, Arka sported the FA Cup at their next home game against Stal Mielec and attracted a crowd of 17,000. Stal were without the injured Andrzej Szermach, the league's top scorer with 14 goals but Buda (2) and Ciolek gave them a 3-0 win.

Stal's other well-known goal-getter, Grzegorz Lato, is still missing the goal touch. He failed to score in the 2-0 win over Holland before a 100,000 crowd at Chorzow, and has only eight goals to his credit in 27 league matches.

Stal are still well in line for a place in next season's UEFA Cup, looking as if they can hang on to third place, but they have blown their championship chances.

Leaders

With the leaders, Ruch Chorzow only able to draw two consecutive matches, 1-1 away to Szombierki Bytom, and then in the top versus second placed match at home to Widzew Lodz, watched by 30,000, they drew 1-1 again.

That left Ruch two points clear, but Stal meanwhile were beaten at home, 2-0, by Lech Poznan to stay four points behind the leaders.

Wisla have Kmiecik on 13 goals, just one below the top marksman, but he is fighting a lone battle for them. Wisla have conceded more league goals than anyone else in the top flight, more even than bottom of the table Gwardia Warsaw who have won only four times in 27 starts and now look to be booked for the drop.

That would leave only Legia playing First Division football in the capital. Adding more grief for Warsaw fans, Division Two Polonia Warsaw are stone bottom in their section of the league and with only three league wins are definitely due to drop down to the regional Third Division.

Gornik Zabrze are certain to bounce straight back up into the top class for their Second Division campaign so far has given them a 12 point lead over second placed Motor Lublin and with a goals tally of 59/20 they cannot now be caught.

Even so their fans don't like second class fare and attendances are averaging only around 5,000 to 6,000.

Although it looks as if Szarmach's international career is over he helped himself to a hat trick for the first time this season when Stal were at home to LKS Lodz. The visitors took the lead after only five minutes but a goal by Lato and two from Szarmach put them 3-1 ahead at the break.

Then Szarmach completed the scoring in the second half. This made him top scorer, on 13 with two more than Kmiecik. Then Ruch's Malnowicz hit four in three games and they share the 14 goal mark now with matches left.

Zbigniew Boniek has always impr playing for the national team but at home rarely amongst the scorers. He got one ag East Germany, but in the league his tw Widzew Lodz in the 4-0 home win over Gdynia gave him a tally for the season of three!

Rusi Gotchev of Levski Spartak, the club who won the double in Bulg Gotchev was top scorer with 19 go

DUKLA PRAGUE ON T

IF Dukla Prague fail to win the championship in Czechoslovakia, then manager Jaroslav Vejvoda will certainly look back at the Czech's European Championship victory over France in Bratislava as the day their hopes went out of the window.

At that time Dukla held a commanding lead over the field and had an away record second to none, but against France the Dukla centre forward Zdenek Nehoda was badly injured, and even missed the next international against Luxembourg.

For Dukla he was out for a month, and even when he returned to the side it looked as if he wasn't match fit, but only that the side needed him so badly that he played.

Coming back too early meant weeks without goals, and all the time Banik Ostrava were creeping up on them.

However, Dukla were still top by three points when Nehoda played at home to Brno but a 0-0 draw saw them drop their first home point after 12 consecutive wins since the start of the season.

Then Dukla were beaten 2-0 in the Prague Derby, away to Bohemians in which Antonin Panenka had a fine game.

In midweek Banik had played their game in hand and drawn 1-1 at Dukla Banska Bystrica and they followed that at the weekend by winning 1-0 in Prague against Slavia, and Dukla remained top only on goals.

That left five games to play and with Brno and Bohemians third and fourth, four points and five points away it was a clear-cut battle between the co-leaders.

Next time out Dukla were again held at home to 0-0 by Banska Bystrica wi Jaroslav Pollak the best player on the fie for the visitors. Meanwhile Ostrava home to ZTS Kosice won by a 60th minu goal from left winger Milan Albrecht to clear at the top by a point.

Underlining that it was a battle betwe the top two, Brno went down 0-1 away Spartak Trnava for whom Ladislav Ku is still playing specially well in midfiel and Bohemians crashed 2-3 away Lokomotive in Kosice.

At this stage, Spartak Trnava, Tatr Presov, Pilzen and Slavia had still registered a single win away from ho while eight other clubs, includi Bohemians, Sparta and the two Kosi clubs, had won only once away.

That 26th round was an 'English week

FIRST DEFEAT FOR BFC

WITH a league tally of 18 wins and four draws, BFC Dynamo Berlin were still unbeaten in the East German championship race when they visited Magdeburg who had beaten them 1-0 a little earlier in the Cup Final.

That game came in the middle of a very critical week, for the previous Saturday Dynamo Berlin had struggled to beat Rot Weiss Erfurt, and on Wednesday came the difficult Magdeburg game away, followed on Sunday by the needle game at home to second placed Dynamo Dresden, the reigning champions.

Against Erfurt, the Berlin club seemed to be coasting when they led 2-0 at the break, but in a quick flurry early in the second half, Erfurt scored three times to lead 3-2. Only 18 minutes from time right winger Hans-Jurgen Riediger equalised, and in the last three minutes Riediger added two more to give the leaders a 5-3 win.

Then came their first league defeat with 1.FC Magdeburg beating them 1-0. The game pulled in a crowd of 26,000. It was a rough game with five players booked for fouls and it turned Magdeburg's way in the 28th minute when Joachim Streich, the best player on the field, scored what proved to be the only goal of the game.

Magdeburg were completely on top having 11 shots at goal in the first half to only one by Dynamo Berlin (21 to 5 overall) and in this first league defeat for the leaders, both star forwards, Hans-Jurgen Riediger and Wolf-Rudiger Netz, were played out of the game, often by heavy handed methods.

On the same evening Dynamo Dresden's home match with Rot Weiss Erfurt attracted a twenty thousand crowd and they won comfortably by 4-1. At this stage the Dynamo Dresden record: won 13, drawn 9, lost 1, would have been championship form in an ordinary season, and their goals tally of 53 to 15 confirms this.

The following weekend Dynamo Berlin's best crowd of the season (22,000) gathered for the visit of Dynamo Dresden. League leaders v. champions and if it went Dynamo Berlin's way they had the title in their pocket.

Netz opened the scoring early, but just before the break Trautmann levelled. Then, though both defences were generally on top, two well spaced out goals from Michael Nouck and Rainer Troppa gave BFC Dynamo Berlin a 3-1 win, and with two games to spare they could no longer be caught. Champions for the first time, BFC Dynamo Berlin.

Levski do the 'double'

AS usual the Bulgarian fixture list left the Sofia derby game between the two crack clubs Levski-Spartak and the army team CSKA until the last day of the season.

They had met ten days earlier in the FA Cup final when Levski beat CSKA 4-1, and the following week-end with the league situation really tight at the top, both teams had to win.

Only one point separated the two teams at the top before the penultimate games and CSKA at home to Cernomore (Varna) won comfortably by 5-2 while Levski, away to newly promoted Chaskovo the bottom club, struggled to win 6-4.

This left the two crack clubs one point apart and due to meet in the last round with everything to play for.

A draw would make Levski champions, but CSKA could take the title if they won.

Although it was shown live on TV, more than 40,000 paid to get in to the Vassil Levski stadion for the championship decider and in a very close game Levski won 2-1 with Rusi Gotchev, their right winger, scoring what proved to be the winning goal.

This gave Levski the championship by three clear points, with Gotchev top league scorer on 19 goals, and CSKA will play in the Cup Winners Cup as beaten finalists because Levski-Spartak did the double.

It was a clean sweep for the clubs in the capital with Lokomotive third and Slavia fourth to play in the UEFA Cup and the only black spot the relegation of Akademik Sofia together with Chaskovo while the other promoted club Spartak Pleven stayed up with three points to spare and five clubs underneath them.

HI BRINK!

being staged on Wednesday evening, and the following weekend Ostrava, the leaders, were involved in a local derby.

Ostrava drew 0-0 away to Teplice while in Prague, Dukla travelled the length of the country to draw 1-1 away in Bratislava to Slovan who are in serious relegation danger. Trailing at the interval, Dukla equalised through substitute Stanislav Pelc only eight minutes from the end.

At the 28th hurdle, Nehoda scored his first post-injury goal at home to Slavia, equalising just before the break and then adding a second goal after the interval.

Gajdusek popped in a free kick and Vizek made it 4-1 for Dukla right in the last minute. But Ostrava, at home to struggling Trencin, had to battle hard for the points but just made it, by 1-0 to stay a point ahead with two matches to play.

Memphis Champions

WITH two league rounds still to be played FK Austria-Memphis are champions again, fifteen points clear of second place SC Rapid and a vastly superior goals tally. 'Austria' also have the top leading scorers in Walter Schachner on 23 and Thomas Parits on 22 and no one else in sight. Together with midfield general Herbert Prohaska, this trio made the club outstanding in the indifferent Austrian ten club Bundesliga.

Picking up five points from three games Grazer Ak moved up over First Vienna who were one of their victims, leaving Wacker Innsbruck still on the bottom but fighting still. They recently beat SC Rapid by 4-2 in the league and 2-0 in the OFB Cup semi finals under Lajos Baroti.

There has been a big improvement since Baroti arrived and Innsbruck have made up a lot of leeway. Before the Rapid games Innsbruck suspended for the rest of the season their international brothers Friedl, the goalkeeper who played against England, and midfield player Peter.

Former international

They had been a bad influence said Baroti, not worried about relegation, just concerned about next season's contracts. Friedl has already joined RSC Anderlecht in Belgium, and played there in the Cup semi final (but lost).

Former international Erich Hof, a classy inside forward in his day with Wiener Sportklub whom he has coached this season is taking over champions FK Austria-Memphis for next season, but the champions have domestic troubles between the club chairman and star players Prohaska, Schachner and Parits.

They all want lucrative contracts or a transfer, and though no one will pay big money for Parits who is well past 30, the other two will probably go to West Germany.

Either that or the Chairman threatens to resign, and Rapid already have no chairman, just a committee running things because the Chairman is expected to put large sums of his own money into the club.

WE NOW HAVE 'SUPER TEAMS'

Speaking Personally with LESLIE VERNON

IN the land of the blind, "one-eyed" Liverpool are the undisputed kings of the castle. Is this a fair opening statement in what purports to be a random review of the past domestic season or a grossly inaccurate one?

This is a question to which the answer must be inconclusive because there is no tangible evidence available. My admiration vis-a-vis Liverpool is limitless. They have a perfect set-up, an admirable chairman, a brilliant and likeable manager, an excellent coaching staff.

No matter how many players they lose or discard (Keegan, Smith, Callaghan, Toshack, Jones), they are unfailingly able to recruit equally capable replacements. In other words, there is a continuity of excellence which is quite breathtaking.

They have perfected the 4-4-2 system to such an extent, that Ray Kennedy (ten goals), Souness (eight), McDermott (eight) and Case (seven) the midfielders — are all capable of coming forward and supplementing the imaginative running of the strikers, Dalglish and the re-juvenated David Johnson.

Just look at those goalscoring figures once again and marvel at the consistency of those four players, imagine the impossible task they must pose to opposing defences, and I believe that we are near to the key of Liverpool's invincibility.

But having said that (to use the supreme cliche of the current football jargon), is this really the best club-side we have ever had? On paper they must be judged so, since they broke several records — most points in a season — 68, fewer goals conceded than ever before — 16 — but let's look at the quality of the opposition.

Nottingham Forest were close on the heels of Liverpool, W.B.A. had a purple patch when they looked fit enough to put in a challenge, Everton faded badly in the second half of the campaign, Leeds, Arsenal and Ipswich were never really in contention. And the rest . . . perhaps excluding Manchester United, they were a sorry bunch with very little "class" and "panache".

In fact, the past season brought us nearer to a Continental-type League which can be divided practically into two divisions — the "leading contenders" and the rest. In our case, we have now two "super teams", a small nucleus of others fighting for UEFA Cup places, and the remainder trying their utmost to stay in the top flight.

When I suggested to a Liverpool supporter that his team play slightly "stereotyped" football, his reaction was predictably emotional. "We score 85 goals, our defence is impregnable, our midfield fluent and we consistently games. Yes, it is borin stereotyped!"

O.K., I am convinced, but b old sentimentalist, I still yearn unpredictability of Danny chflower's Tottenham team sheer pleasure of watching La and Charlton perform for Man United.

The big news of the season course, the arrival of foreign pla our hitherto splendidly shores. In contrast to the enth of the professionals in the game of the journalists criticise infiltration, and Amigo Sadler *Sun*", for instance, was ha observe that none of the teams imported players "won anythi

Since only three clubs can win a domestic trophy in any season, this is a rather narrow and I would gladly conte underlying "little Englander" m ty.

Oswaldo Ardiles was an unqu success, he put thousands gates everywhere he played — t player in the entire League to Muhren has been an outst performer for Ipswich — accord his manager, Bobby Robson despite a wretched start, they qu for Europe.

Golac was also a good acqu for League Cup Finalists, Sout ton, and Deyna has becom established Manchester City teamer. The only failure has Tarantini, who for various re didn't play up to his potenti doomed Birmingham.

But I feel that the critics of f imports are missing the point they ask that one player change the fortunes of a single-handed. These foreigne pursued by managers partly be of their skill, but mainly because price! They are relatively cheap — much would Ardiles fetch o English market now?

Our transfer system has been unsatisfactory, and this season will go down in football h as the one in which it be positively insane.

For years we laughed at the It with their crazy spending sp confetti money, etc. Who's lau now? Five-hundred-and-sixt thousand pounds for a goalkeepe

Arsenal players celebrate their FA Cup victory over Manchester United. Left to right: Pat Rice, Frank Stapleton, Graham Rix, Brian Talbot, Pat Jennings and David O'Leary.

ensure promotion" was an investment by West Ham, which eventually did ensure promotion ... for Crystal Palace, Brighton and Stoke!

Approximately the same amount for David Mills didn't do any favours for West Bromwich, and 45 minutes of inspired play against a hopelessly outclassed Swedish left full-back still doesn't convince me that Trevor Francis is worth a million. (Who is?)

At these prices, there is no danger of a "Euroexodus" by our players as was suggested in the "*Daily Mail*", because apart from three or four Spanish clubs, nobody else can afford to "buy British".

Few of our own clubs can really afford to either — so they go shopping abroad or rely on their own youth programme. But I repeat, the system is crazy, and it is a factor in dividing the First Division into two sectors — surely not a development to be encouraged.

No review of the season, however patchy, would be fair if it didn't contain a paragraph or two in praise of the up-and-coming young managers. Ron Atkinson, John Barnwell, Terry Venables, Alan Durban, Alan Mullery, Graham Taylor, John Toshack and several others have contributed a great deal to a season in which the football in the lower divisions was often more imaginative than in the more fear-ridden top League.

Television had a lot of publicity as usual, what with "Snatch of the Day" rapidly becoming "Swap of the Day", and the fact that the B.B.C. and I.T.V. in their excitement to compete with one another, "managed" to push up the payment for televised football much higher than the clubs would have otherwise dared to hope for.

However, I am more concerned with the coverage itself and the reactions to it. As an example, let's take Jimmy Hill's criticism of Ray Hankin. To refresh your memory — Hankin of Leeds deliberately kicked or rather raked his studded boots over the bodies of two Ipswich players, and the slow motion cameras revealed this truly appalling behaviour.

Although the F.A. quite properly acted on this filmed evidence, a heap of abuse was directed at Hill from all quarters. "Who does he think he is?" asked some journalists. "Trial by television" complained others.

Jimmy Adamson, manager of Leeds, instead of condemning his player's bad sportsmanship, was also annoyed with Hill, and dragged out some ancient story about animosity between Coventry (Jimmy's club) and Sunderland (Adamson's old club).

Absolute nonsense! Any journalist worth his salt, whether he works for TV or for a newspaper, with the overall good of the game as his foremost consideration, must pinpoint the evil-doers, criticise the cheats and advocate the beneficial aspects of football.

Blandness, brushing the dirt under the proverbial carpet are as bad as the crime itself. But most managers and players do not accept that being public performers, they must take criticism — favourable or otherwise — whether they agree with it or not.

Bob Paisley, manager of Liverpool, with his Bell's cheque for £2,500.

Perhaps they should follow the example of Arsenal who were involved in that other "cause celebre" of the season — Sammy Nelson's shorts-dropping during the Coventry match.

I was at that end-of-the-season meaningless game at Highbury, and frankly, didn't even see Nelson's silly act, which was caught by a couple of sharp-lensed photographers.

It was a stupid thing for Nelson to do, but he lost his head (?), and gave vent to his joy over scoring a goal, in this extraordinary fashion.

What did Arsenal do? Did they put a protective arm around their player, blame the photographer for "trial by Kodak" or the Press for seeking scandal. No, they suspended Nelson for two matches and fined him around £500!

Bravo! So, if you play for Arsenal, it costs you a fortune to show your backside to the crowd, but at Leeds, you are apparently allowed to get away with strong-arm tactics — Revie's ghost still haunts the corridors of Elland Road. . . .

Apart from Liverpool's brilliance and Nottingham's well-deserved European Cup triumph, the emergence of the England team was the most pleasing feature of the past season. The Greenwood spell is working a treat. He put his own philosophy and the reason for the change for the better in a nutshell just before the Bulgarian game: "We have failed to qualify for the last two World Cups and the last two European Championships because there was no continuity. We went adrift with different mixtures of players and no pattern for establishing a recognised team. The side did well against Scotland and I have to keep faith with the people who have done a good job for me. The new players respect this sort of confidence in them and no one has let me down yet."

The quotes of the season came, not unexpectedly, from Tommy Docherty, who, after selling practically the entire Derby team and buying a new one, went into the dressing-room before a match and said to his boys: "Good luck to you — whoever you are!"

Referring to the terrible state of the sandy Derby pitch, he said: "We are selling deckchairs here next year, not season tickets."

Docherty is now with Q.P.R. — are you surprised?

from ERIC WEIL

AS MOST South American national teams are preparing for a new edition of the South American Championship — the first since 1975 — to be played in three preliminary groups of three countries each during July and August with the three group winners and champions Peru entering the semi-finals, controversial Brazilian coach, Claudio Coutinho, continues to make the headlines with his talk of "new tactics".

Coutinho is excited about Flamengo — the Rio de Janeiro club he coaches — winning the Rio league championship without losing a match and with more of an attacking approach than the Brazilian national team. He says: "I have changed my ideas about the game and feel it is more important to go on the field worrying about scoring goals according to Napoleon's famous saying that the best defence is attack."

Coutinho also now feels that the lengthy

Arraya (Palestino, Chile) just manages to catch the ball in the Libertadores semi-final round match which his team drew 2-2 with Guarani in Campinas (Br

ATTACK

confinement of players to training camps depresses them and these concentrations will be shorter in future, also because, he says, club teams are now training harder in Brazil and players come to the national team with better preparation. Coutinho is also still convinced that the Brazilian team is better than the Argentine world champions who they play, together with Bolivia, in the preliminary group.

When Brazil played their first international since the World Cup against Paraguay in Rio de Janeiro on May 17, with a lot of Flamengo players in the side, they certainly showed attacking flair with Flamengo's Zico scoring three in the 6-0 victory. But they faced probably the weakest Paraguayan team ever to play in the Maracanã stadium — without players of champions Olimpia who were on their way to the final of the Libertadores Cup at the time.

CHILE, who face Colombia and Venezuela in the preliminary round, have picked a 33-man pre-selection (leaving out players with foreign clubs) which has started training under coach Luis Santibañez. They expect to play against Ecuador, Spain and Paraguay before the championship starts.

URUGUAY'S new coach, Raul Bentancout, who was in charge of the junior team which won the South American Junior Championship earlier this year, has picked 25 players (which cannot be transferred abroad) to prepare for the South American Championship and the 1982 World Cup, but the exclusion of Uruguay's highest paid and most famous player of the moment, Peñarol centre-forward Fernando Morena, who caused no end of protests — although on previous occasions Morena has frequently been blamed for Uruguay's defeats (so much so that he once decided not to play for the national team again), because he is accused of being afraid to get near goal. But Morena is 27 and Bentancour has the 1982 World Cup in view.

COLOMBIA'S team is being prepared by Yugoslavia coach Blagoje Vidinic. The 44-man pre-selection includes 11 players of vice champions Deportivo Cali, but none of the naturalised foreign players in the Colombian league — as requested by the Colombian players' association.

In BOLIVIA they are still arguing whether to play in the South American Championship in which they have to face no less than the continent's two strongest teams — Argentina and Brazil — in the preliminary round. Withdrawal from the tournament would mean a $30,000 fine and a ban on playing international matches for two years imposed by the Confederación Sudamericana de Futbol.

ARGENTINA, meanwhile, beat Bulgaria 2-1 in Buenos Aires in their first match since the World Cup (but lining up only five of the players in last year's final) and they would have won by double figures if they had kept up the rhythm of the first 15 minutes. Nothing seems to have changed since they beat Holland 3-1 for the trophy ten months earlier as they went into attack from the start — cheered on wildly by the big crowd at the River Plate stadium (scene of their earlier triumph).

Houseman put Argentina ahead before three minutes were up after a good combined movement with Reinaldi and Maradona. The latter continued to make some of his characteristically brilliant runs, beating man after man and just failing on several occasions to score what would have been great goals. But after ten minutes, a free-kick from Bonev found the net for Bulgaria's equaliser.

Soon after Argentina gradually lost their rhythm. The midfield transportation was slow, they did too much short passing and lacked surprise in attack as they failed to vary their game — all the failings which were apparent some months before the World Cup. That is why, although Argentina continued to be the better team in the second half, they only scored once through Passarella from a penalty after Reinaldi was brought down. If anybody else deserved to score, it was Maradona with his outstanding ball control which, however, too many of his team-mates tried to copy and the rhythm and team-work which won the World Cup last year was missing.

Three weeks later they left on their European tour with games against Holland, Italy, the Irish Republic and Scotlan the time coach, Cesar Menotti, decided whether Argentina would f full national team in the South A Championship or a provincial selecti

THIS ALSO HAPPENED . . .

URUGUAY proposes July 17 to A 1980, for the "Gold World Cup" tour to celebrate the 50th anniversary of World Cup tournament held in Uru 1930. Participants would be previous Cup winners Uruguay (1930, 1950 (1934, 1938), West Germany (1954, Brazil (1958, 1962, 1970), England and Argentina (1978). Uruguay eve to ask FIFA to let the winner straight 1982 World Cup finals.

BRAZIL bribed Uruguayan Esteban Marino with $5,000 to be abl up winger Garricha in the 1962 Wo final against Czechoslovakia in according to revelations made by Aimoré Moreira in the Sao Paulo paper, "Journal da Tarde". Accor Moreira, the referee, acting as linesma semi-final against Chile, called for Ga sending off (after he had reacted viol being fouled by Chilean defender Ro Moreira was on hand to offer him the to forget about it. Garrincha scored goals against Chile and his sending o have meant his missing the final, too

● Still in Brazil, Ana Maria de Moran a goal for women when she became woman soccer coach in April. Miss 29, coaches Bandeirante in the Brasi championship and she does some talking about her tactics, too: "Goals count, no matter how they are score relationship with the players seem excellent. "We only get a bit embarr bath time," they say.

URUGUAY'S junior team, the American champions, were withdra the Pan American Games by the FA several of the players could be con professionals. (This, however, is also with several other South American which will be taking part.)

The BRIAN GLANVILLE column

AFTER Liverpool had won the European Cup last season for the second successive time, an Italian critic speculated on the possibility of an English domination of the trophy. And we have it. After Liverpool, Nottingham Forest. The Final in Munich may have been something of a grey, gritty anticlimax, but as Brian Clough sensibly observed, one must take the competition as a whole.

If we do that, then we may see that Forest, in effect, played no fewer than *two* "real" Cup Finals: against Liverpool in the very first leg, against Cologne in the semi-finals. Malmo's path to the Final, by contrast, was a triumph of mind over matter. Poor Bob Houghton lost one player after another.

The going of Thomas Sjoberg, the centre-forward who chose the fleshpots of Arabia, then went on to the Chicago Sting, perhaps was the most severe amputation of all. Without him, Malmo had little or nothing up front, by the time the final was reached. Their display after Forest had taken the lead was simply abject.

They had to continue to play nine men behind the ball, simply because they were incapable of opening and raising their game. Things were not helped, it is true, by the broken toe suffered in training by Tapper, the day before, so the lanky, experienced, midfield player had to come off after only 35 minutes.

Shrewd

Bo Larsson, as we know, had already dropped out, which meant that the most capped and shrewd footballer in the side was missing from a team which scarcely bubbled over with talent. As one who has watched and admired Swedish teams for the last thirty years, who was brought up on the likes of the Nordahl brothers, Nils Liedholm, Gunnar Gren and Garvis Carlsson, I found Malmo a dreadful disappointment. It did not surprise me that they have won so few friends among the Stockholm critics, who were scathing in their dismissal of Malmo and their ways before the game. All credit to Bob Houghton for so nearly succeeding in making a silk purse out of a sow's ear, but the pigskin was showing badly by the end of the game in Munich.

* * *

Trevor Francis' performance, along with those of Robertson, after half-an-hour, and Tony Woodcock, redeemed the largely dull game, and the performance of Forest. Later, Peter Taylor, who surely only does it to annoy because he knows it teases, publicly claimed that he and Clough had "made a man" of Francis and transformed his game.

This followed hard on the heels of Taylor's statement that he lived in perpetual fear of losing his job. My reaction to both effusions was one of the deepest scepticism. If Taylor lost his job at Forest, the world would beat a path to his door to hire him again. If Francis had never come near Taylor and Clough he would remain what he is, a supremely talented footballer, one of the very few that we in England have.

It is thanks to Francis, and a handful of others, that England may be said to have some chance in the European Nations finals of 1980. There is no substitute for skill, as George Raynor — once the Swedish coach — used to say.

* * *

Once again, last May, Glasgow (not Scotland) spewed its brutalised psychopaths into the streets of London. Once again there was violence, intimidation, drunkenness, vomiting, urinating anywhere and everywhere. In Cardiff, a week earlier, the stone corridor beneath the stands had been swimming in urine at half-time. The bestiality of it all was perhaps summed up by the three Scottish thugs who chased a boy into the road in Essex and, when he had been hit by two cars, kicked him as he lay in the road.

Glasgow is a city with its substantial virtues, a city of courage, humour, character, even dignity. But its horrific economic problems are such that they seem almost insoluble, at least for the forseeable future, bringing in their train alcoholism, brutality, and an almost pathetic chauvinism. I myself was almost involved in a very unpleasant incident on the platform of Wembley Complex, after the game, for injudiciously remarking that I felt sorry for Scotland!

Sanctions

My colleague Ian Wooldridge, having, in the *Daily Mail*, very properly castigated the repugnant behaviour of the Scotland fans, then drifted into fantasy when he suggested that future England v. Scotland games be played behind closed doors. That is surely not the way. Instead, believing firmly that an ounce of prevention is worth a ton of cure, I feel that those sanctions be applied to the Scottish fans which were previously applied to those of Manchester United, when they regularly ran wild. That is to say, deprive them totally of a ticket allocation, cancel all special trains, and retain the ban indefinitely.

It isn't, of course, a perfect solution. Thousands come down to London, in any case, without tickets, hoping vaguely to acquire them by fair means or foul. But it would certainly cut back the numbers dramatically, and encourage England fans to frequent a stadium which is now largely filled — and, alas, abused — by Scottish fans.

In case you think my reaction too extreme, let me quote the words to me, just before last May's game, of a devoted Scottish football journalist, who for years has exulted in Scotland's victories over England, and has been known as the most committed even of these committed men. "It's disgusting," he said to me. "If I were a Londoner, I'd want England to beat Scotland, just because of the way these people behave."

I *am* a Londoner, and these are exactly my own feelings. I *did* feel sorry for Scotland at Wembley. The ghost of Franz Haffey hung over the Scottish goal, and goalkeeper, allowing England to pull from the fire a game they had begun so ineptly. Yet on another, less objective, level, I was delighted to see Scotland beaten. I would be more delighted still were London returned to the Londoners. How long more have we to wait till sensible action is taken to prevent the two yearly barbarian invasion by these drunken, dehumanised, insensate hordes?

* * *

There are other fears, though they lie in the future. A second Scottish journalist spoke to me in Munich with horror of the prospects of Scotland reaching the World Cup finals in Spain in 1982. FIFA, he said caustically, simply hadn't thought out the implications of their fatuous decision to increase the number of countries to 24, thus making it relatively so easy for Scotland to get through.

This is a Scot who is as patriotic and enthusiastic about his country's football as the rest, yet he was appalled by the idea of 50,000 Scottish fans, spoiling the battle, pouring into Spain for the competition, with an infinity of other groups to fight: Dutch, English, Germans and the rest.

Colleague

To be fair, things weren't so bad in Frankfurt, where there was a large Scottish presence, in the 1974 tournament; even if my Scottish colleague did remind me of that fearful evening in Barcelona after the European Cupwinners' Cup Final of 1972, when the Rangers fans took on the massed ranks of the Spanish police.

He is, I think, right to regard the 1982 World Cup as a potential nightmare. This is the bitter fruit of the ineffable Joao Havelange's Presidency. He has not been able to deliver, to the Afro-Asians he persuaded, one way or another, to vote for him the greater representation they craved. They'll have no more than an extra team each, as will CONCACAF — though Heaven knows that is bad enough. But though Artemio Franchi, the UEFA President, fought against the extension, the European countries ratted on him, seduced by the prospect of easier qualification. The price will be paid in 1982.

In brief . . .

SPAIN'S national team boss Ladislao Kubala has turned down a big cash offer to pose for nude photographs for a magazine.

★ ★ ★

MIODRAG KUSTUDIC, Yugoslav centre forward of Hercules, is angry because the club have yet to fulfil an apparent promise to pay him the value of the home he had to leave in Rijeka.

★ ★ ★

JOAO LEIVINHA is quitting Atletico Madrid to return to Brazil, while Paraguayan CARLOS 'Lobo' DIARTE is leaving Valencia after turning out a £350,000 flop.

★ ★ ★

HENNING JENSEN'S future with Real Madrid was complicated by the club's delay in landing a new foreigner. Their attention fluctuated for a while between Rene Van der Kerkhof, brother Willy, and top scoring Alkmaar centre forward Kees Kist. Meanwhile Werder Bremen, from West Germany, patiently waited for a chance to move in on Jensen . . .

★ ★ ★

ARGENTINE pair Carlos Morete (16) and Miguel Angel Brindisi (14) scored well over half Las Palmas's 49 league goals. Unfortunately Brindisi, the 1974 World Cup schemer, is bound for a return to his original Argentine club, Huracan.

REAL MADRID CELEBRATE IN STYLE!

SPAIN

by Keir Radnedge

REAL MADRID are Spanish champions yet again — their 19th league title — and they've signed a new coach.

He's yet another Yugoslav, Vujadin Boskov, and the grand irony is that immediately after the league had been concluded, Madrid beat Boskov's last club, Zaragoza, 2-1 on aggregate in the Cup quarter finals!

Madrid claimed the title in style, hammering visiting Santander in the last game in Chamartin by 5-1, watched by a 60,000 crowd even though the match went out live on television.

Short of dotting the i's the championship had been settled, however, the week before. Though Madrid had been beaten 2-1 in Sevilla in a game which saw the start of the second half delayed because the referee was taken ill, their nearest pursuers, Gijon, were held 2-2 at home by Celta.

The Vigo side, battling furiously to avoid relegation, lost their battle in the end. While they were congratulating themselves o point at Gijon, fellow strugglers Vallecano were drawing 1-1 at hoe Barcelona.

It was former Barcelona spearhead M Clares who scored the Rayo goal, thou third Madrid club could have had both p Unfortunately CFB goalkeeper Pedro A saved a penalty from Jesus Landaburu same Landaburu who had already agre join Barcelona next season!

Come the final matches of the l campaign and Celta were held 2-2 at ho Atletico Madrid while Rayo won surpri 2-1 away to well-placed Las Pa Landaburu made up for his blunder o previous week by scoring the first goa making the second for Salazar.

Barcelona — winner of the European Cup Winners Cup.

Real Madrid — Champions of Spain. Back row left to right: Garcia Remon, Sabino, Aguilar, Stielike, Benito, Pirri. Front row: Juanito, Del Bosque, Cortes, Santillana, Wolf.

"Our best game of the season — just when it mattered," said coach Eduardo Gonzalez. Rayo had finished on 29 points, while Celta, on 28, went down with Santander (22) and Huelva (21).

At the top of the table Madrid reached the last weekend with 45 points, two clear of Gijon. In theory Vicente Miera's men could have overtaken Madrid, but they would have needed a dramatic about-turn in goal difference and of course a Madrid defeat.

Goals never came into it. On the Saturday evening Gijon travelled to Alicante and found Madrid's advance guard in the shape of Hercules goalkeeper Amador. An ex-Real player, he made a series of fine saves which, combined with an 18th-minute goal by Charles, condemned Gijon to a 1-0 defeat.

Madrid were thus certain of the league title before even walking out against Santander. It was almost a Madrid reserve team which took the field. Injuries had reduced coach Luis Molowny to call in the third-choice goalkeeper, an inexperienced stopper and left back, two reserves in midfield and another in attack.

But it was the attacking reserve, Argentinian Roberto Martinez, playing probably his last competitive game for the club, who was the hero, scoring two of the goals in the 5-1 triumph.

The players wore black armbands in memory of the anniversary of the death of Santiago Bernabeu and could hardly have demonstrated in a better way that though he may have died, Madrid go marching on.

They finished on 47 points, Gijon on 43, with Atletico Madrid and Real Sociedad de San Sebastian both coming through at the end to claim 41 points and Spain's remaining UEFA Cup places.

Hardly had the season ended than Boskov's switch from Zaragoza — who finished one point above Rayo! — to Madrid was confirmed. As I write, the appointment hasn't fully sunk in. Luis Molowny, who has done such sound work over the past two years, has long since made it clear he wanted to return to a more anonymous task inside the club.

But after the controversial years with Miljan Miljanic, another Yugoslav was hardly expected by the fans.

Boskov, once a fine inside forward whose career ended in Switzerland only in 1962 with Young Fellows, also began his training career in the land of cuckoo clocks. In 1963-64 he took over Young Fellows as player-coach, then was trainer for a season with Rot-Schwarz Zurich in 1968.

The Yugoslav national team and Feyenoord in Holland were his major stopping posts before he signed at Zaragoza a year ago.

The good news on Boskov's arrival was that UEFA's 25th anniversary amnesty cuts back drastically the European ban on star right winger Juanito — he'll be available for international action from next January. But there are a lot of gaps to fill.

Quique Wolff is leaving, an unfortunate absence forced on Madrid by the new regulations regarding the number of foreigners per team. The Argentine allrounder has played exceptionally both in midfield, as stopper and sweeper during his two years at Chamartin and his displeasure at being released was understandable.

Skipper Jose Pirri must be replace soon and stopper Gregrio Benito can't last much

● *Continued on page 49*

Neeskens for Cosmos

JOHAN NEESKENS, now you've signed a five-year contract with New York Cosmos, are you pleased to be leaving Barcelona?

"Certainly not. It's a sad moment. I've been here five years, after all. But I am upset that president Nunez has never really spoken to me to explain my transfer and why they don't want me any more. Always he sent one of his directors."

It's said you wanted a lot of money to stay on?

"No. I asked for the renewal of my contract for three years. People said I wanted too much money. But that's not true. I asked virtually what I'm getting now, but for three seasons. I'm 27 and I need to assure my future a little. And I also think I would have done well enough in three more seasons.

But you couldn't guarantee that?

"No, but then there's no sort of security in football anyway."

Is it true you might have gone to Real Madrid?

"No truth in that either. No one from Madrid ever spoke to me and anyway to go to play for them — however fine a club they may be — would be to betray my fans in Barcelona."

How did you prevent the situation off the field affecting your game?

"I knew long ago that Simonsen was probably coming to Barcelona. It could have got me down. But I thought it was best to keep my part of the bargain and do my job properly. It was the fans who turned me into a 'cause.' I didn't incite them. But it's because of them that I couldn't ever have considered Madrid. They've been tremendous."

Crowds aren't so good in the United States, are they?

"I read the other day that only 3,000 came to see Johan Cruyff while they get 70,000 in New York. But then, there are some crowds of only 3,000 in Holland. That's one of the reasons I'm not ready to go back."

WORLD SOCCER DIARY . . . WORLD SOCCER DIARY

FIFA'S birthday

IT's Birthday time for football's two most powerful organisations — FIFA is 75, and UEFA 25.

But while plenty of pleasant things have been said about the past, not so much attention has been directed towards the future.

What do the next 75 years hold — and are these bodies, FIFA in particular, equipped to deal with the problems?

Back on May 21, 1904, none of the representatives of seven countries meeting in a Paris back room at the Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques in Rue Saint-Honore, could have had any idea of the power their federation would one day command.

That more than 25 million footballers and some 330,000 clubs in 145 nations around the world would take their orders from a smart new headquarters in Zurich.

In fact FIFA could soon top 150, for there are half a dozen membership applications in the pipeline — swift progress, for in 1914 there were 24 members, 51 in 1938, and 98 in 1960.

The greatest FIFA production has been the World Cup, which began in 1930 in Uruguay and has been expanding ever since. That's the only event to which most fans link FIFA but in fact the greatest role is in preaching the soccer gospel throughout the world.

For many of its early years FIFA had to struggle with political jealousies, two world wars and the hatreds they threw up, countless disputes over representation and the in-and-out attitude of the British associations.

For the future the problems will be different. Now most countries have accepted relations at least on the football pitch, FIFA can concentrate more securely on football development in the Third World. That's not to say that the industrialised nations can be forgotten. Greater mechanisation and more leisure time will surely keep football at the top of the sports tree.

But although it's professional football which gets all the publicity, in fact only 0.8 of the players registered with FIFA play the game for a living.

But it's this factor and the attitudes struck for and against, that threaten the most to hinder FIFA in conflict between the old establishment and the third world. The voting system of one country one vote, while democratic to a point, may well need overhauling.

For the developing nations will hold a controlling hand. It was by recognising and responding to this new power balance that Joao Havelange was able to muster the support to overthrow Sir Stanley Rous in 1974 and attain the presidency.

Havelange is an ideas man and, as the first South American president, a blast of fresh air in the European-based organisation. I think he's provided may more people in FIFA with a realisation of the importance of the worldwide development of the game.

It was to celebrate achievements past and challenges to come that Holland and Argentina played their recent "World Cup Final repeat" in Berne, though in many quarters the reason for the game was overlooked.

FIFA will have trouble keeping its membership united. The anti-Israel mood in the Asian confederation, the gradual assimilation of China, the need to maintain diplomatic commonsense in regard both to the professional and amateur game — these are the matters on which FIFA's future and prosperity depend.

FIFA presidents: Robert Guerin 1904-6; D. B. Woolfall 1906-21; Jules Rimet 1921-54; R. W. Seeldrayers 1954-55; Arthur Drewry 1955-61; Sir Stanley Rous 1961-74.

* * *

HARDLY has one season finished in Western Europe than we're thinking about the next.

The draw for the three European competitions is to be made in Zuric July 10 and still the situation of Bor Moenchengladbach hangs in the bala

In the UEFA Cup — of which they ar holders — no provision has ever made for the winners to gain autor right of entry the following season.

It's so happened that this problem never arisen before, since past win have always obtained a passpor Europe the following season thro domestic successes.

However Borussia finished the se only in midtable, missing out on a U Cup qualifying place, and were elimin early in the West German Cup, thus forfeiting a Cup-winners' shot.

Three choices now face the DFB UEFA. The West German associa could include Borussia among their t UEFA Cup nominees — but this w upset one other club; they could Borussia "tough luck"; or UEFA c make special allowance to incl Borussia in the draw.

Such a step — an extraordi invitation — has been issued befor European club competitions, so wouldn't be a precedent. Also, wit place for the holders being guarant from season 1980-81, no-one wo surely quibble.

Above all, when you consider amount Borussia have contributed European club football over the p decade.

* * *

SAD NEWS from Norway, where strong-man defender Jan Birkelund has been forced to retire by a heart complaint. Birkelund nearly signed for English club Coventry last season, but decided it wasn't worth his while. At least, that was the official story . . .

Names in the news . . .

NAMES IN THE NEWS . . . ZYGMUNT ANCZOK, ex-Poland international, is new coach of Skied Oslo . . . HUGO TALAVERA, star of Libertadores finalists Olimpia Asuncion, is considering a transfer to Spain . . . Benfica midfielder JOAO ALVES wants to get away, just a year after joining them . . . Talleres of Cordoba have offered Sevilla £500,000 for DANIEL BERTONI . . . Malmö boss BOB HOUGHTON got a three-week touchline ban for insulting a referee . . . JOHAN CRUYFF scored twice on his debut for Los Angeles Aztecs — and went off injured in the next game . . . EDDY FIRMANI has been sacked as boss by New York Cosmos . . .BERND HÖLZENBEIN turned down an offer from Saudi Arabia . . . RACHID MEKLOUFI quit as national boss of Algeria . . . AGUSTIN CEJAS, one-time goalkeeping star of Racing Buenos Aires and Santos, has celebrated 20 years playing . . . FIFA have lifted their ban on SANTIAGO SANTAMARIA after Newells Old Boys settled their transfer fee dispute with Re . . . Anderlecht signed Austria goalkeeper FRIEDL KONCILIA not Ajax forward TSCHEU LA LING . . . CHRISTIAN PIOT, Standard Liege and Belgium goalkeeper, played the first minutes of his farewell testimonial match . . . WLOD LUBANSKI has signed for two years more with Lokeren . . . R RENSENBRINK went to Spain — for special treatment on injured knee . . . NICO DE BREE, Anderlecht goalkeeper, retired from top soccer . . . ROBERT GADOCHA joins Brazil club Curitiba . . . Chilean star CARLOS CASZELY has broken a . . . WOLFGANG SEGUIN of Magdeburg hasn't missed a leag game in five years — and keeps going . . . France midfield s MICHEL PLATINI has joined Saint-Etienne as has JOHNNY F . . . Köln tried to buy PSV's RENE VAN DER KERKHOF, but did like the initial £400,000 asking price.

Bob Houghton — manager of European Cup Finalists Malmö.

A FRENCH magazine asked the other day if I'd supply a hypothetical team drawn from the Common Market countries.

They didn't say if it was to play the Warsaw Pact, SEATO, or even Mars as always used to be the case.

But the 11 I chose were these — Shilton (England) — Vogts (W. Germany), Bonhof (W. Germany), Krol (Holland), Cabrini (Italy) — Keegan (England), Tardelli (Italy), Stielike (W. Germany) — Simonsen (Denmark), Dalglish (Scotland), Rossi (Italy).

I've no doubt no-one else will agree, but then that's the beauty of these teams — they certainly provoke discussion!

While on the subject of such polls, some months back I mentioned the series conducted by the Buenos Aires weekly, *El Grafico*, to find the best club team of all time.

The series having now run out of steam (*El Grafico* have turned their inquiring minds to the greatest racing driver of all time) the final voting for first place was as follows: 1, Santos (1960s) 193. 2, Real Madrid (1950s-60) 103. 3, Internazionale (1964-65) 49. 4, Ajax (1970-73) 47. 5, River Plate (1942-5) 43. 6, Racing BA (1966-67) 32. 7, Independiente (1972-5) 28. 8, Honved (1952-54) 22.

The poll was conducted among managers, players, retired players, football personalities and journalists, most of them South American. A European poll would probably put Real Madrid top and might not be so generous to Racing Buenos Aires — one of the teams who helped give the world club cup such a bad name.

One more recent inquiry was conducted by the Italian magazine *Guerin Sportivo* into the best goalkeeper of all time. By calculating it on the basis of goals conceded in top matches, the placings were: 1, Gordon Banks (England). 2, Sepp Maier (W. Germany). 3, Enrico Albertosi (Italy). 4, Dino Zoff (Italy). 5, Ricardo Zamora (Spain).

Hardly surprising, given the defensive nature of *Calcio*, that two Italians appear so high!

* * *

WHILE on the subject of the world club cup . . . by the time this appears the result of the first leg should be known — assuming, that is, that Brugge (standing in for Liverpool) and Boca Juniors went ahead with their first leg in Buenos Aires on June 15.

The return is set for August in Belgium, though Boca apparently still hold out hopes of being able to persuade Liverpool (with cash) to play a one-off game.

Apropos of all that, British newspapers were of course jumping the gun in their speculation about whether Nottingham Forest would face Boca for the world club cup. The 1979 Libertadores was a long way from being decided when Forest won in Munich.

I was also fascinated at the reasoning of a number of papers describing Boca as "notorious." What have Boca ever done to a British team to earn such an epithet? That seemed to me to be tarring them with an old brush.

Now, if they were really referring to Juan Carlos Lorenzo . . .

* * *

SOMEONE had a bright idea when they thought of Japan for next month's world youth tournament.

The land of the rising sun has a lengthy soccer tradition, with a football association founded in 1921. There are 260,000 registered players — slightly more than Belgium, for example — and a number of well-equipped modern stadia.

For the world youth finals, between August 25 and September 7, matches will be played in the Tokyo national stadium (capacity 72,000 seats), Omiya (15,000), Kobe (17,000) and Yokohama (12,500).

The format will be the old World Cup method — four groups of four, with the winners and runners-up going into knock-out quarter finals and semi-finals.

We told you

Five years ago: *Joao Havelange had defeated Sir Stanley Rous to take over as FIFA president; the Lobo affair blew up; Pele won the South American player of the year award for the first time.*

* * *

Ten years ago: *Gerd Müller hit four goals in West Germany's 12-0 thrashing of Cyprus; England's 4-1 win was their first victory over Scotland since landing the World Cup; Real Madrid's 27-game league unbeaten run was ended . . . by an own goal; Boca's Antonio Roma kept his goal intact for an Argentine record 13 hours 1 min.*

* * *

15 years ago: *France boss Georges Verriest quit; a new Puskas — Lajos — scored three times for Hungary in an under-23 game with Austria; Turnhout were ordered out of the Belgian first division after a bribes scandal; Emil Oesterreicher, ex Honved, Real Madrid and Torino, took over Espanol Barcelona; Reims and Nice were both relegated in France.*

THE RISE AND BORUSSIA MÖ

by ERIC BATTY

IN astronomical terms it is not often that one sees the death of a sun, and in football, although teams do rise and fall, to be able to see a once great side collapsing.

But now, with Borussia Mönchengladbach losing Allan Simonsen to FC Barcelona, and coach Udo Lattek moving on, one can confidently predict the untimely death of Bor.MG as the English newspapers call them when they publish results.

Of course they *could* come again, but for former star Jozef 'Jupp' heynckes who has signed a three-year contract as coach, it will be an uphill struggle. This is clear because a super team needs super players, and these days they are very rare, and Borussian have none left, and must start afresh.

Apart from Simonsen, Berti Vogts is quitting after a long and glorious career, and regretfully it has to be conceded that Dietmar Danner, once so promising, will never be super star.

Danner could have been, and surely would have been, had he not suffered a knee injury that has kept him in and out of hospital, for the better part of five years. Now 28 he is still not really fit, and having missed vital experience he will not fulfil the promise he had when I first saw him at 22.

Danner earned six full caps, and through a stroke of good fortune I saw his first game for West Germany in Moscow against Russia on TV while on holiday in Bulgaria. He played so well that he looked set for a long career at top level — but injury intervened.

I first saw Danner when he was 21, for as is my habit, I try to see all the teams who begin to get rave notices from the critics, and was quick to go to Germany when Borussia first made people sit up. Sitting drinking coffee in the club house before the kick off I missed the changes. According to the programme the number 6 was 'Hacki' Wimmer, but I could see it wasn't him.

The young Danner had everything, and I remember writing at the time in *World Soccer* that here was a name to remember.

'Seedings'

As administrators the world over have shown, for example in their 'seedings' for various competitions, they are not very good judges of the present. Thus it was that when the *Bundesliga* was formed, both FC Bayern Munich and Borussia Monchengladbach were not granted places.

By a quirk of fate, these two clubs won promotion together for the 1965-66 season and both went on to great things on their own and together provided most of the players that won for West Germany the 1972 European Championship and the 1974 World Cup.

The rise of Borussia was basically the result of the work of Hennes Weisweiler who in my view is the best club coach in the world. He proved himself by leading Borussia to maturity without ever buying a star player.

No coach really makes stars. The players work to achieve top rank quality, but the coach plays a vital role . . . in 'helping' them to the top.

Weisweiler signed Simonsen, Henning Jensen and Carsten Nielsen from Danish amateur clubs and together with his squad of unknown young Germans he took Borussia to the top.

Lacking established stars it took Borussia longer to prove themselves in the *Bundesliga*. In season 1965-66, having just been promoted, Bayern finished third, but Borussia were well down in 13th place.

But the writing was on the wall.

I did not see them that early, but from 1969-70 onwards I often popped in to the Bokelburg stadium while on route to more glamorous places in my football travels, and in the first half of the seventies I saw them play at home two, three, four times a season.

Just as I had been drawn to West Ham earlier by the quality of their play, so I was drawn to Monchengladbach. Ron Greenwood and Hennes Weisweiler stamped their beliefs in good football based on skill, intelligence, collective play and bursts of individual brilliance, on their players.

The result was real od-fashioned football played at the modern pace against the more physical opposition that marks the modern game.

Accuracy

What appealed to me was the way Borussia played the ball around 'to feet' while most teams gave the ball more air. But playing to feet requires a great deal of individual skill in screening the ball; accuracy of passing; judging when and where to lay a pass so that it will not be intercepted, and so that it could be easily received by a colleague.

On top of that, because opponents naturally tried to stop them 'playing', there were times when a player received a ball and was immediately put in trouble by quick tackling opponents, but like all the truly great football sides, when that happened Borussia always had men in support in space, available to receive easy balls laid off early.

These qualities are the hallmark of good football, and through a lot of hard work with the ball in training, Borussia not only produced top drawer football but made it pay.

In Borussia's second season in the *Bundesliga* they improved to eighth place. Then twice in a row they finished third before finally winning the championship and making the big break-through in 1969-70.

Between 1970 and 1978, Borussia Monchengladbach won the championship five times, including a hat-trick between 1975 and 1977, and in addition won the German FA Cup in 1973 and the UEFA Cup in 1975.

Their record speaks for itself, but more than that, Borussia had a rare quality in that they were just as capable of winning well away from home as they were at the Bokelberg.

By adjusting their game slightly, which calls for a high degree of understanding from the players, and more proof of Weisweiler's work, Borussia made the running at home against a majority of teams that played defensively.

Then away from home, they played with more men back, but like all the best sides they went looking for goals with up to seven and eight men every time they got the ball.

Though regular readers may think that I am against pulling eight men back in defence, it is if you think about it only commonsense to defend when the opposition attacks. I am not against that. What I hate is the teams that play the Italian game, and keep seven or eight men back *all the time*.

You have to drop back in strength in order to cut down the space available to your opponent and win the ball back.

This is the key to good football, for having won the ball, you have to counter-attack quickly and skilfully to create a shooting position at the other end before the opposition can re-group and organise their defence.

Phil Neal of Liverpool told me recently that he admired Borussia in 1978 for in his words, "they attacked so quickly and skilfully every time they got the ball." Unfortunately for Borussia, they had already lost many of their best players by that time and had difficulty in scoring goals.

This willingness to throw players forward when they get the time is the key too good football in what we term the modern game, and it hinges on the philosophy and outlook of the boss.

Many of the top teams in England, and elsewhere, play defensively away from home,

Varacka moves in

● **IN COLOMBIA, Argentine coach José Varacka, became the 13th coach of champions Millionarios in the last two years.**

Varacka, a former Independiente (Argentina) midfielder and more recently coach of Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata in the Argentine first division, took over from Colombian Oscar Ramos who had been in charge since Uruguayan Eduardo Hohberg resigned in April. The Colombian club's officials were, however, always looking for a foreigner. Hohberg resigned because, he said, club officials meddled too much in team affairs — which is probably the reason for many of the other changes during the last two years.

Millionarios, meanwhile, after having postponed league games during Libertadores Cup first round group play, played off 10 matches in a month to catch up, winning three, drawing two and losing five to stay in the lower half of the table. Vice-champions Deportivo Cali, also with postponed fixtures for the same reason, won six, drew one and lost two in the same period, and, with still a game in hand, are only five points behind leaders and Cali rivals, America, with seven games to go in the "Opening" Championship. Tolima, the only team which took the much-applauded action of signing no foreign players this season, are, however, firmly at the bottom of the table trailing next to bottom Cucuta by five points.

FALL OF . . .
ÖNCHENGLADBACH

breaking out to attack when they can, but sit back when they have gone in front. Bosses who believe in real football and are good coaches*and* have confidence in the abilities of their players, will still throw men forward in numbers right up to the last minute, even though they are winning comfortably.

Teams only playing for a result will only attack with their full-time strikers and perhaps one or two more, when they are winning 2-0 away from home.

This of course stems from fear and indicates a lack of confidence. It is also one of the really big problems facing the game today.

The Monchengladbach attitude was never more clearly illustrated than in the UEFA Cup Final in 1977 when their opponents, FC Twente from Enschede in Holland, managed to hold out for a 0-0 draw at the Bokelberg.

Their fans must have been optimistic then about their second leg prospects, but Borussia surprised most people by winning in Holland where the Dutchmen played a more open game, and Borussia scored five goals.

Perhaps Borussia's finest achievement will be forgotten with the passage of time for it does not appear in most record books.

In the 1971-72 European Cup the met FC Internazionale (Milano) and utterly destroyed the Italian game with a devastating 7-1 win. UEFA decided that the game must be replayed on a ground 300 kilometers from Monchengladbach, after Inter had won the second leg 4-2. Someone, who could have been Italian, threw a beer can onto the pitch, hitting an Italian player who feigned serious injury, and the final result was a 0-0 draw in Berlin.

To my eternal regret I was not there at the Bokelberg that day to see Gunter Netzer & Co destroy *Calcio*.

Gunter Netzer and Herbert Wimmer helped West Germany beat England at Wembley 3-1 in the 1972 European Championship with Berti Vogts unfit at the time. By 1974 Rainer Bonhof had been recognised and made the winning goal for Gerd Muller with a great angled run down the right.

Other Borussia stars have been 'Jupp' Heynckes, Jensen and Simonsen, and at their best they were a joy to watch. I cannot give anyone higher praise, and though they might still win the 1979 UEFA Cup as I write, it is ominous that they are only just above the relegation mark in the *Bundesliga*.

The rot really started when Netzer was tempted to join Real Madrid. He as soon followed by Danish centre forward Henning Jensen, and later still by Uli Stielicke. Wimmer returned to amateur football and Heynckes retired, while Rainer Bonhof went to Spain and Simonsen is now set to follow.

Being a small town team Borussia could not even accommodate the big crowds that enabled Bayern to pay their stars well enough to keep them. Small town teams everywhere are always losing their best players, and Borussia's only hope was that Weisweiler could continue to produce quality players from his coaching school.

But Weisweiler too was tempted by Spanish Gold, and the writing has been on the wall for some time.

Borussia could conceivably come again but it will be a long, hard climb back to the top — if they ever make it. But I could not let their passing go without placing my tribute on record.

At their peak Borussia were a truly great side.

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MARADO

—destined to be the world'

IT'S SIX years ago now. The boys of Argentinos Juniors were coming off the pitch after being narrowly beaten in the youth championship final by Pinto de Santiago in Cordoba. There were not a few tears.

But in the midst of the pandemonium, one of the Pinto players put his arm round the shoulders of an opponent and told him: "You've got nothing to cry for. One day you'll be the best No 10 in the world."

That day has just about arrived for Diego Maradona.

For he was the boy so disappointed in defeat; the boy who has just exploded on Europe with his devastating displays against Holland and Scotland, on Argentina's recent tour.

Yet he is still only 18.

Diego Armando Maradona has a great future ahead of him, and he's been praised to the skies by the European Press. Back home the papers have, also, seized on a remark by team manager Cesar Menotti and call him "the new Pele."

But before everyone gets carried away, let's get the facts straight. Maradona was born on October 30, 1960, which means he has a long way to go in the game.

"He has all it takes to be a phenomenal player," says Juan Carlos Lorenzo, coach to world club champions Boca Juniors. "But he's at a dangerous age. He'll need all the help he can get from family, friends and his coaches. Sudden wealth has a habit of producing a lot of instant friends . . ."

But while Lorenzo's words of caution are well advised, the signs are that Maradona, this 5 foot 6 ball of muscle and inventive genius, can keep his feet on the ground.

That much was obvious as early as February 1977, when he made his Argentina debut as a second-half substitute in a 5-1 win against Hungary in Boca's Bombonera stadium.

Besieged afterwards by reporters who wanted to know everything about his ambition, Maradona answered: "There's only one thing I really want—that my father doesn't have to work any more. We're a poor family and he's laboured body and soul for us. I don't want him to have to go on like that any more."

Maradona is almost a throwback to a different age; the story he tells, once you manage to prise out words about his background, bears marked resemblance to that of other great Argentines before him, such as Alfredo Di Stefano and Omar Enrique Sivori.

The poor home . . . the games on waste land . . . making a ball out of tin cans and socks because no-one could afford the real thing . . . no proper boots . . . and practising those ball skills against a wall under a street light until three in the morning.

It's a tough school from which Maradona has emerged. And for every one like him who makes it to the top, to the pinnacle where foreign clubs are offering £1 million, there are hundreds who don't.

by Keir Radnedge

Hundreds who ignored their schooling for the gamble that football would make their fortune. And lost.

Like Rene Houseman, another poor boy who made good, Maradona has never forgotten his family's needs. After all, as he says, "eight children take a lot of looking after."

Maradona is No 5. Before him were four sisters, and after him came Lalo, who is now 12, Hugo, nine, and sister Claudio, five. Life must have been tough in the poor back streets of Villa Fiorito, the *barrio* in which Maradona was brought up.

He says: "If my parents asked me to give them heaven and earth, and I could, that still wouldn't be enough to repay them for the sacrifices they made for us."

An early instance of that sacrifice was to buy him a proper football when Maradona was only three. He was so delighted he even slept with it tucked under his arm.

Now, of course, anything he wants he can afford. Football and fame have given him that facility. Earning close on £120,000 a year, he sounds as if it's all still a dream to him.

"When I was younger I had just one pair of trousers, that had to do for Sunday best as well. Now I can buy whatever I like—trousers, shirts, jackets, shoes—any day of the week. When I was a kid too I couldn't afford my own boots. Now new makes are brought to me every day to try. People even *pay* me to wear them!"

It was boots which reconciled Maradona to Menotti after the stunning blow of being omitted from the squad of 22 for the World Cup Finals. Menotti had worked up until the deadline with 25 players, who all knew that three would have to be dropped.

"I didn't like making the decision," says Menotti. "It really hurt me. I just hoped the boys would understand. But I understood too that they might say things in the heat of the moment—that Menotti used them, that I never gave them a chance, and so on. I told all the squad that even in that case I wouldn't feel any the less respect for their ability as footballers."

Maradona was one of the three.

He says: "I was so upset. I just wanted to run home and hide. Now that I've had time to think it all out properly I understand Menotti's reasons. He was right. I was too young. I hadn't had the kind of experience to cope with the pressures of a World Cup, of a long concentration. But at the time . . ."

Maradona stormed out of the camp at Jose C. Paz, but realised, having done so, that all he wanted to do most dearly was play for Argentina in the World Cups to come. The problem was, how to make his peace with Menotti?

By coincidence, a top European sports goods firm were trying to persuade Maradona to sign a contract with them. He was uncertain. What would he be taking on? How much money should he ask? Would his team-mates be jealous and should he negotiate for them too?

Maradona decided there was only one man who could advise him—Menotti. They arranged to meet at the Argentine FA headquarters and he found—just as the manager had promised—that there was no animosity over his reaction to the World Cup exclusion.

Indeed, unknown to Maradona, Menotti had long had his plans clearly mapped out for the Argentinos Juniors inside left.

First would come the South American youth championships across the river Plate, in Montevideo. Then the full national side's tour of Europe, then, hopefully, the world youth cup in Japan.

Menotti says of Maradona: "He's the direct heir to all the great Argentine players of the past. You can see something of our old football in his every movement. The youngsters are surprised by his artistry, the older fans see in him a Sivori.

"For me, he recalls a mixture of many of the talents of both Pele and Puskas. But he's not a second one of either. He's Maradona, his own man. I hope he stays that way. That he keeps this same style, maintains his character.

"He's not one of these players who feel they need their personal hairdresser in the changing rooms. Nor is he always sounding off to the newspapers.

"As far as football goes, sometimes he's a bit slow to go and look for the ball, but Pele was the same at his age. This comes with time. Diego has the potential to become the world's No 1."

The man who discovered Maradona was a 46-year-old bank clerk named Francisco Cornejo. He spent his weekends scouting for Argentinos Juniors, the team from the Buenos Aires suburb of La Paternal. In 1969 one of his neighbours sons called at his home and said: "Why don't you come to watch my friend. You might want him in your team."

Cornejo ran a boys' team in Villa Fiorito. The team was called *Las Cebollitas* and Cornejo used it to bring together boys who could, at the age of 12, be registered by Argentinos with the FA.

Accordingly Cornejo went along to watch the *barrio* team run by Maradona's father called *Estrella Roja* (Red Star). He recalls: "I knew right away that this boy could be a *crack*. He was only nine but he had a skill on the ball remarkable for a child his age. Not only that, but he obviously thought

DNA
's best?

about his game too. I took him into my team, and we played 140 games without one defeat!"

In 1973 *Las Cebollitas* won a junior championship, and afterwards Maradona switched officially to Argentinos Juniors. He began in the ninth team, and they won their championship. After that he went into the eighth team, then the fifth. He had only four games and was promoted to the third team, coming directly under the supervision of the senior staff.

Vitamin tablets and injections became the order of the day to try to build his stamina, for the only fear was that his build and lack of height might hinder his progress.

In fact it wasn't his fitness which delayed his debut, but his mischievous tongue.

In the autumn of 1977, while sitting on the Argentinos substitutes' bench during the first team's game against Velez Sarsfield, Maradona was appalled by the refereeing. As the official walked off at the end, the 15-year-old was unwise enough to tell him, sarcastically: "You'll get plenty of international matches like that, won't you?"

That cost him a five-week suspension!

But once available again, Maradona was told by Argentinos' coach Juan Carlos Montes that he would be playing for the first team, not just sitting around.

So, on October 20, 1976—ten days before his 16th birthday — Diego Maradona made his league debut as a substitute against Talleres of Cordoba. Amd what a start! Hardly had he been on the pitch more than a few minutes than he was cheekily playing the ball through the legs of Talleres midfielder Cabrera.

Maradona had arrived!

Only four months later and Menotti named him in the national squad for a friendly against Hungary. "He's just in for the experience," Menotti told the newspapers, but secretly he had other plans.

Calling Maradona aside, he told him: "If everything goes well, you'll play part of the game. Tell your parents if you like—*but don't dare tell the newspapers!*"

And so, in the 65th minute, Maradona gained his first surprise taste of international football as substitute for Leopold Luque.

"When I went onto the pitch I was scared to death," he admits. "But immediately Gatti cleared the ball out to Gallego, and he gave me a pass and after that I stopped worrying."

Maradona later laid on a goal for Rene Houseman with a beautiful through pass which bisected the Hungarian defence and he gained three more caps in the run-up to the World Cup Finals.

But then came a period of unrest.

The World Cup exclusion was the first setback, the on-off transfer to Sheffield United the second.

Seeing now how brilliantly Maradona has shone, it's an incredible thought that he came so very close to appearing last season in the English second division.

Sheffield, working through our old friend Antonio Rattin, had virtually agreed a £450,000 fee for Maradona and centre forward Carlos Fren. But . . .

Maradona says: "Everything had been agreed for the future for myself and my family. I would get more than £150,000. Fren was as pleased as me. All the other players congratulated us. Then our club president, Prospero Consoli, said No. It was all off.

"I didn't understand it. The club would get £500,000 they badly needed as well as play three games in England."

Maradona, who had days before starred in a 5-2 win over Union Santa Fe, threatened to walk out on the club, "unless they make up to me some of the cash I'll lose."

Publicly Consoli blamed the decision not to sell on an AFA directive prohibiting the transfers abroad of 40 young players born after July 1959 and who included Maradona. But in fact that list hadn't been issued until after transfer talks had been concluded.

More likely Consoli, who was soon to face presidential elections, was aware of unrest in the boardroom over the sale of the club's greatest asset and decided he didn't want to go down as the man who gave away the pearl of reat price.

In the league Maradona continued to show brilliant form. Not only was he the turning wheel in midfield, working, scheming, creating all the openings, but he ended the metropolitan championship as equal top scorer on 21 goals, along with Luis Andreucchi, of champions Quilmes. Argentinos Juniors had finished a creditable fifth.

But the transfer talk hadn't finished. San Lorenzo made one bid and were rejected; Boca Juniors made another and Rosario another; then came Napoli from Italy, and finally, and most seriously, Barcelona.

What decided the Spaniards was Maradona's brilliance in the South American youth championships. Argentina finished runners-up to Uruguay to clinch a qualifying place for Tokio, but Maradona was without doubt the No 1 player of the tournament.

In the opening game against Peru—which Argentina won 4-0—he scored a magical goal, dribbling three quarters of the length of the pitch, past one man after another, before beating the goalkeeper with a wicked shot on the near post.

Even the Uruguayan fans chanted his name during the final in the Centenario stadium!

But once back in Buenos Aires, Maradona was plunged into more intrigue. Barcelona vice-president Nicolas Casaus made an offer to Argentinos of £500,000. "We won't even bother to consider it," said Consoli. So Casaus went round to the back door and talked to Maradona. He offered him a home for his family, a car and £700,000 over four years.

Maradona instantly asked Consoli why he hadn't been told of Barcelona's interest and why weren't the club ready to at least negotiate?

Consoli, reluctantly, agreed to talk to Casaus. "We want one million pounds for Maradona," he said, hoping that would scare off the Spaniard.

In vain.

"Right," said Casaus, "we can pay that over one year, if you agree!"

Consoli didn't agree. He was almost on top of the club elections and delayed his reply.

Meanwhile the fans grew restive and Maradona felt obliged to explain himself.

"I'd love to stay and play for the national team," he said, "but I hope the fans understand that if an offer comes along which would ensure security for myself and my family for life, then I would have to take it."

Consoli's delaying tactics worked well. Not only did he win a substantial majority of the members' votes to remain in charge, but back in Europe Allan Simonsen decided against a move from Borussia Moenchengladbach to Hamburg to confirm his option with Barcelona.

The Spaniards, with only room for two foreigners, were forced to pull out of the Maradona deal just as Argentinos, with help from an internal airline and a banking and business consortium, were coming up with the sort of money to guarantee Maradona the kind of wealth he expected in Europe.

Now, after his displays on tour, there can be no more question of the AFA allowing him to go abroad. The way in which he took Johan Neeskens apart in the World Cup Final 'repeat'; then the way in which he bewildered Scotland, scoring one goal when he nearly had three, underlined that this is the man to guide Argentina towards retaining the World Cup.

"I once said of Maradona," recalls Menotti, "that he reminded me in certain ways, of the young Pele. Everybody twisted my words and said I believed Maradona to be the new Pele. That's not right.

"This boy is the First Maradona."

Of referees and others

by Brian Glanville

SO far as referees are concerned, it appears that nothing succeeds like failure. The performance of Portugal's Antonio Garrido and Hungary's Palotai in the 1978 World Cup was abominable; but here they are, Garrido getting England v. Scotland (and making a most passive job of that harshly contested game), Palotai — who himself made a poor fist of an England-Scotland game — being allowed to subvert the Cupwinners' Cup Final.

In the World Cup, Garrido it was who ineptly controlled — if that be the word — the match between Hungary and Argentina in Buenos Aires, while Palotai held what might best be described as a watching brief over Brazil v. Argentina in Rosario. Enzo Bearzot, the Italian manager, recently spoke to me with deep displeasure of the Argentina-Hungary game. "They kicked Toroscik until the blood came," he said. "Then when it was too much for him and he at least retaliated, he was sent off."

In Rosario, Palotai simply tood by while the Argentines and Brazilians kicked lumps out of one another. The game had scarcely begun when Luque was going over the ball. Palotai, whose burly presence belies an extraordinary complaisance, an inert permissiveness, failed to get a grip on it then, and had no chance of getting a grip on it later. Vengeance on Luque was instantly wrought by Oscar. Chicho had his say; or his kick. Baptista, of Brazil, was twice lamentably fouled; the second time by Tottenham's own Ricardo Villa, who was very lucky to stay on the field.

Authority

In Switzerland, in the Cupwinners' Final, Palotai was his familiar, deceptive self; a finely built figure, exuding an authority he never exercised. Again, fouls proliferated, but Palotai, though he may blow for them, keeps his yellow, let alone his red, card in his pocket. One moment, when Carrasco, the young Barcelona left winger, disgracefully pretended to be fouled, remains in the mind.

The millions who watched the game on television saw with abominable clarity that there was nothing wrong with the player at all, that he bounced up and resumed the game immediately, but Palotai did nothing about it. In Italy, the sin of "simulating a foul" is penalised at once by expulsion. Palotai did not even bring out his yellow card.

Meanwhile, on the British television commentary, Jackie Charlton emerged almost as an accessory after the fact. Recalling, perhaps, his days as Leeds United's . . . uncompromising centre-half, rather than his present as the Sheffield Wednesday manager, he pronounced thus on a dire, deliberate foul by Barcelona's stopper Migueli, just outside the box. "It was beautifully done. It was wrong; but it was necessary." This brought him a mild but proper remonstrance from Brian Moore; and the condemnation of thousands, judged by the comments I have heard.

Beautifully done? Necessary? Why bother, then, to play at all? The logical extension of such an argument, such an attitude, is that anything goes. *Realpolitik* rules. That disgusting phenomenon, the "professional foul," is enshrined as a respected feature of the game.

How I laughed last year when Liverpool's Phil Thompson, judging his tackle to a nicety, brought his own man down inches outside the box in the Liverpool v. Nottingham Forest replay; only for the referee, suffering from a sublime human error, to give a penalty kick, from which Forest scored and won the Cup. How satisfying it was afterwards to see Thompson enraged by what he regarded as the injustice of it all. But justice had been done: however rough.

* * *

Talking of Liverpool, they must surely start favourites for the next European Cup; provided they can steer clear of Nottingham Forest.

Forest's season in Europe means that they are battle hardened now, and they have the confidence bred by their splendid success. But Liverpool, though they won the League so majestically, never stand still. They have bought Coen of Israel for the defence, they have bought the lively, left sided, McGarvey for the attack.

Steve Heighway, after splendid years of service, after ridiculing the idea that one cannot come into major football and succeed in one's early twenties, seems reconciled to imminent withdrawal. David Fairclough, alas, hasn't fulfilled, or been allowed to fulfil, his spectacular early promise. But the team remains exceedingly strong, and there are few in Europe which seem capable of opposing it.

1978/79 was a bad European season, at European Cup and national League level alike. 1979/80 doesn't, at the moment, show much promise of being better. Real Madrid will be carrying the Spanish banner once again, but — once again — this is not at all the Real Madrid once known and feared. Pirri has faded now, and how can he be replaced? As against that, the West German, Stielike, has matured into a formidable — in every sense — midfield player, while Santillana continues to score goals. New faces are needed, though, to lift the team into true contention for the Cup.

Essence

Kevin Keegan's Hamburg look the best of the newcomers, partly thanks to the excellent, exuberant, form of Keegan himself, partly because Manny Kaltz, despite the sad loss of his daughter, is playing in outstanding form. His display against Wales as an attacking full-back, superbly making a goal from either wing, seemed to me the very essence of Total Football.

Milan, the Italian Champions, are not likely (unless they can deploy Paolo Rossi) to be stronger than they were in the UEFA Cup; and they are bound to feel the lack and loss of Nils Liedholm, their Swedish manager.

That has been a strange affair. Scarcely had Milan finished celebrating their League victory than Liedholm had left them, and returned to Roma; who, of course, haven't won the title since 1941, and were in danger of being relegated, last season.

The players available to Liedholm in Rome — which he left for Milan only a couple of years ago — scarcely inspire one.

Why, then, has Liedholm made such an apparently strange move? In the first place, because he clearly feared he might be stabbed in the back if he remained in Milan. It nearly happened midway through the season when the team ran badly out of steam and seemed in real danger of losing their grip on the title. A group of directors was conspiring against "Liddas," but then things suddenly took a turn for the better.

Lampooned

It is, in all conscience, nothing new in the annals of Milan A.C. I remember when I was living in Rome in season 1954/55 meeting in a restaurant Bela Guttmann, who had just lost his job as the Milan manager, though the team still led the table. He told me wryly that in all his future contracts he intended to have a special clause, "Not to be dismissed while the club is top of the League."

The way for Liedholm to return to Roma was cleared when its controversial President Gaetano Anzalone — strongly lampooned in Alvaro Marchinis chronicle of his own Presidency there, *Io, Presidente* — abruptly resigned. Anzalone had forced out Liedholm a couple of years ago. Now Viola, an admirier of Liddas who'd already, it appears, been in touch with him much earlier in the season, assumed the Presidency; and brought back his friend.

Even with Liedholm in charge, I cannot see Roma accomplishing very much. For a variety of reasons, most of them to do with the . . . Byzantine nature of the Eternal City. Roma has the chips stacked high against it before a ball is kicked or a shot is fired. But they should do substantially better than last season.

* * *

Never change a winning team? That whiskered cliché of football was with us again during the International Championship, when Ron Greenwood, against all club form and apparent logic, reinstated Wilkins, Latchford, Barnes and Hughes.

Greenwood's own version of Chinese ancestor worship became still more bizarre after Latchford and Barnes had failed in Belfast. He recalled them against Scotland; and England won again.

How is another matter, but as Ben Hogan once remarked after he had holed a lucky putt, "Are we playing how, or how many?"

Napoleon, before appointing a new general, would always ask one question about him: "Is he lucky?" Judged on that basis, Ron Greenwood is surely the best manager England have had for years. May there be a silver lining in every future cloud, a George Wood, if one may be so crass, lurking around every corner!

COSMOS HAVE THEIR PROBLEMS

By Colin Jose

ELEVEN games into their 1979 North American Soccer League schedule, question marks still hang over the New York Cosmos despite a record of nine wins and two defeats. Clearly the strongest team in the league on paper, and the reigning champions, the Cosmos won their opening seven games, often with some difficulty before being beaten by their arch rivals, the Tampa Bay Rowdies, in a repeat of last year's "Soccer Bowl".

Playing before 40,701 fans in Tampa the Rowdies showed up glaring weaknesses in the New York defence and although the final score was only 3-2, Tampa were clearly the better team and had a wide margin in play.

In this game the Cosmos were more a collection of highly skilled individuals than a team and this appears to be the main reason they are finding it difficult to defeat clubs with considerably inferior personnel.

A glaring example of New York's defensive problems came in Tampa with the score tied at 1-1 and less than a minute to go to half time. Tampa midfielder Petar Baralic hit a speculative cross from the right low across the goalmouth, and three Cosmos defenders watched it go past them, while goalkeeper Erol Yasin did the same.

Tampa's Argentinian striker Oscar Fabbiani took full advantage coming from behind the defence to push the ball into the net and send the Rowdies into the dressing room with a 2-1 half time lead.

But Tampa's domination really came from their midfield where Baralic, Van der Veen and Wes McLeod controlled the game for large portions with Baralic and McLeod pushing forward with great effect.

In fact Canadian international McLeod was perhaps the best player on the field on the day, while for New York American international Ricky Davis underlined why he is one of the finest players ever developed in the United States.

New York's second defeat came in Chicago where the Sting are having an in and out season with a talented team. In fact Chicago are just one of a number of teams throughout the NASL who could topple the Cosmos, but none of them are displaying the kind of consistency to suggest that they could capture the championship from the New York club.

Washington, Minnesota, Vancouver, Los Angeles, Tampa Bay, Fort Lauderdale and Chicago have to be considered the main challengers, and now that Los Angeles have rebuilt their team under Rinus Michels and added Johann Cruyff to the roster, the Dutch star might just be the man to do it, if anyone is going to.

Here is how the various divisions are shaping up beginning with the National Conference.

Eastern Division

New York leads Washington but very narrowly in a two horse race with Toronto and Rochester fighting it out for third place. The Cosmos are suffering somewhat from injury problems with Franz Beckenbauer, Werner Roth and Eskandarian on the sidelines, while Washington have lost just three games to the two for New York and are getting a fine performance from Hungarian international Joszef Horvath.

Toronto after having lost seven of their first eight games have now won three in a row and added Yugoslavian striker Ivan Lukacevic to the line up. "Big Luke" as he is known in Toronto was the club's leading goalscorer last season.

Central Division

The Minnesota Kicks have pulled ahead of their closest rivals here in what looked to be a three team race, however as the Kicks were winning seven of their first eight games both Tulsa and Dallas have not been as consistent.

Tulsa started off well but a tendancy to play very defensively away from home has not helped them, while Dallas who now have Gerd Trinklein (Eintract Frankfurt), Willie Lippens (Borussia Dortmund) and Wolfgang Rausch (Bayern Munich) in their line up are certainly not playing up to their potential. Atlanta, much as expected bring up the rear.

Western Division

Here Vancouver lead as was expected and have the best goals against record in the league giving up just eight in nine games. But Los Angeles who now have a far stronger line up than the one that started the season are right on their heels.

Rinus Michels has quite naturally used his Dutch connections to strengthen the Aztecs and in addition to Cruyff the line up now includes Wim Suurbier, Hubert Smeets (MVV Maasteict), Leo Van Veen (F.C. Utrecht) and Thomas Rongen (F.C. Amsterdam). While the midfield has been strengthened by the signing of Vito Dimitrijevic from the New York Cosmos. Seattle and Portland trail here but not by much.

Over in the American Conference in the Eastern Division a new look Tampa Bay leads the pack under the expert guidance of Gordon Jago and are playing an attractive brand of attacking soccer particularly at home. On the other side of Florida the Fort Lauderdale Strikers are not far behind with George Best playing well and Gerd Muller settling down, while Ray Hudson continues to be the man around whom most of the team revolves.

Philadelphia who now have Alan Ball and Frank Worthington in the line up have been somewhat of a disappointment but are better than their record suggests, while New England, still minus Mike Flanagan are struggling.

Central Division

The surprise team here are the Houston Hurricane who have won eight and lost but two with a team devoid of name players, however, before the season is over look for Chicago and Detroit to overtake them. The Detroit Express, still awaiting the arrival of Trevor Francis, now have Ted MacDougall in the line up and also 1978 F.A. Cup Final goalscorer Roger Osborne from Ipswich. At the bottom the Memphis Rogues have fired coach Eddie McCreadie and old Chelsea favourite Charlie Cooke has replaced him.

Western Division

The Dutch influence which has suddenly become very strong in NASL this season is in evidence again here as the Edmonton Drillers under coach Hans Kraay have surprised everyone so far by taking over the lead from the San Diego Sockers. Kraay has relied heavily on Dutch players of course with Lorenz Hilkes having scored five goals in seven games since joining the club.

San Diego have not lived up to expectations having won just five of eleven games, while the California Surf have fired coach John Sewell, who was NASL "Coach of the Year" in 1975.

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News from South America . . . by ERIC WEIL

Olimpia finalists again

PARAGUAYAN champions Olimpia reached the final of the Libertadores Cup, for the first time since they lost at this stage against Peñarol (Uruguay) in the inaugural tournament in 1960, by winning this year's semi-final group one although they have taken part in the tournament 13 times.

In the final they face either Peñarol, Independiente (Argentina) or cup holders Boca Juniors (Argentina), but only two matches have been played so far in this group which is not scheduled to be completed until July 4.

Olimpia were probably favoured by the fixture list against Guarani (Brazil) who had been fancied to reach the final after their excellent first round group play. But before Guarani got to play their two rivals at home, they were already out of the competition.

Guarani gained a 0-0 draw in the first game against Chilean champions Palestino in Santiago, playing a conservative game, mostly defending and counter-attacking, to gain a point which seemed good enough at the time. Then they went to Asunción to face Olimpia three days later in what turned out to be the vital match. Guarani tried to get another draw by holding on to the ball and slowing the match, but Olimpia, with good midfield play and a penetrating attack, were always dangerous and Villalba put them ahead after 31 minutes.

Olimpia soon started to defend their lead, however, giving Guarani more space until Miltao netted the equaliser due to a defensive mistake 13 minutes from the end. Rough and nervous play resulted in Guarani's Careca being sent off and Olimpia again took command against a depleted Brazilian team to score the winner through Paredes six minutes from the end. Guarani could not repeat their good play and powerful attacking against the very close marking of the Paraguayan team.

When Olimpia easily won 2-0 (and missed a penalty) in Santiago, where Guarani could only draw against Palestino, it was practically over and when the Paraguayans won the return match in Asunción even more easily, scoring all three goals in their 3-0 win in the first half, they were in the final for the second time after 19 years.

Guarani finished by drawing at home against Palestino (2-2) and Guarani (1-1), but these results would probably have been very different if anything had depended on it. The Brazilian clubs also got the short end of the stick financially. In the Libertadores Cup, clubs keep the major percentage of home gates and with nothing depending on the result of their two home games in the semi-finals, barely 4,000 spectators watched each match — a sharp contrast to the 75,000 who saw them play in Santiago and the 55,000 in Asunción.

Guarani's delegates had put forward all sorts of arguments to avoid the two Argentine teams (which, according to the rules, have to play in the same group) in the semi-final round, but judging from the two poor games — with only one goal — so far, they might have done better.

Independiente — winners of the tournament a record six times — hardly deserved a point in the 0-0 draw with Uruguayan champions Peñarol in Montevideo. Peñarol were closer to victory, but both coaches made tactical errors which contributed to the poor play. Independiente missed injured Bochini in midfield, but this hardly justified coach Pastoriza's pulling back leading scorer Outes and putting in inexperienced Giagischia at centre-forward.

When he sent on Biondi (another midfielder) for him in the second half, Independiente improved, although improved second half form of defender Villaverde and midfielder Galvan also contributed. But several players — notably dangerous Uruguayan striker Alzamendi — were well below form.

Independiente's young goalkeeper Pogany frequenly saved his side when the defence became disorganised and he was easily their best player. Peñarol marked closely and this was partly responsible for Independiente's below par performance, but on the other hand the Uruguayan champions got mixed up in midfield. Peñarol should, however, have been given a penalty by an unsure referee — Peru's Cesar Orozco — when fast winger Paz was brought down by Lencinas in the first half after dribbling past several defenders. Their other winger, Ramos was, however, the weak point in their attack — which otherwise might have riddled the Argentine defence — and he should have been substituted earlier.

In the second game, central defender Capurro, a last-minute substitute for injured Mouzo, played a great game and headed in the goal after 32 minutes which gave Boca Juniors a 1-0 victory over Peñarol in Buenos Aires. Boca played their accustomed tough soccer with close marking all over field which virtualy anulled Peñarol for whom only Paz was dangerous. But Boca themselves lacked the finer points in attack to worry a not very tight Uruguayan defence and unsure goalkeeper (Fossati).

ROSARIO CENTRAL JUST

Winger Perroti (Boca Juniors), one of Argentina's new internationals (left) beats a Rosario Central defender in an Argentine league match at the Boca Juniors stadium.

IN ARGENTINA, Rosario Central lost the last unbeaten record in the 20-team Metropolitan First Division just as the tournament was going into a four-week recess while the national team toured Europe — but they are still easy three-point leaders of section B with six matches to go and their lethal attack has scored 26 goals in 12 matches which makes them leading scorers.

Fighting for second place in Section B (and a semi-final place) are second-placed Boca Juniors and Independiente (a further point behind) who are both engaged in the Libertadores Cup semi-final round.

Boca Juniors, the holders, have surged up the table after a poor start as their many new "buys" seem to be settling down, but they threw away a vital point in the last match — three days before a Libertadores Cup encounter — when they fielded reserves against bottom Chacarita Juniors and, although still the better team, could only draw 0-0. Independiente had failed in the league earlier while engaged in Libertadores Cup first round play, but as soon as this was completed they put all their efforts into the league to win four matches in a row with

Autonoma qualify for final round

UNIVERSIDAD Autonoma de Mexico (UAM), topping group two, were the first team to make sure of a place in the final round as the Mexican championship reached its final stages with all 20 teams holding their positions during the last month. UAM also continue as easily the leading scorers with 74 goals in 35 matches — 50 of them coming from their dangerous duo of strikers, Hugo Sanchez and Brazilian Cabinho, who top the scorers table with 25 goals each.

Ricardo La Volpe, who was in Argentina's World Cup squad as third choice goalkeeper last year and who was signed by Atlante earlier this year, has been a real disappointment. Not only has he failed to live up to his reputation — having been blamed for several defeats of his team which is now no longer in the title fight — but he has repeatedly got into rows with his team-mates because of his bad temper.

Cardenas (Racing Club) holds off World Cup captain Passarella (River Plate) in an Argentine league match.

FAIL . . .

centre-forward Outes continuing to help with late winners.

It now remains to be seen what will happen when both league and cup play restarts in a month's time — whether Boca or Independiente, or both, will sacrifice more league points in favour of cup success. This would give a chance to joint third Estudiantes de La Plata whose dangerous striker Fortunato easily tops the scorers table with 12 goals (followed by Argentinos Juniors' Maradona with eight) although he was suspended for two matches. Maradona also missed two matches after being sent off for retaliating — his brilliant play makes him a target for fouls — and his club dropped from the top of Section A.

Meanwhile River Plate returned to the top, jointly with Newell's Old Boys, after getting over their injury and suspension crisis as well as finally coming to terms with practically all their players although goalkeeper Fillol, while playing, had not actually signed his new contract at press time. River picked up seven points from their last four games.

Another welcome return from lengthy suspension was that of international winger Houseman who revitalised Huracan as they won their last two matches — with Houseman scoring two — to move out of the relegation play off zone . . . but Velez Sarsfield have dropped Peruvian World Cup defender Manzo from the first team squad because he failed to reach the required standard.

Meanwhile, 18-year-old Maradona, who became Argentina's youngest ever international two years ago, renewed his contract for one year with modest Argentinos Juniors and with financial assistance from an airline. Although the financial details were not revealed, it was learned unofficially that the one-year contract is worth 250,000 dollars (including salary and bonuses) and that Argentinos Juniors may soon use shirts with the airline's emblem and colours.

● IN URUGUAY, first division champions Peñarol and Danubio tied first place in the final round of the Championship of the Republic held for the first time this season, but which was not a success — financially or sportswise.

Several clubs did not field their strongest teams — specially Peñarol who frequently rested players for Libertadores Cup games in spite of which they finished top — and gates were low as fans lost interest. The four provincial selections, which took part in the tournament as a novelty, were too weak and finished in the bottom two positions of each section. Peñarol, Danubio, Fenix and Cerro qualified for the final round by taking the top two places in each section and the first two shared top place after drawing 1-1 on the last day.

A play-off will be held later for the title which gives the winner entry into the usual end of season final round ("Liguilla") from which Uruguay's two Libertadores Cup representatives are chosen. (At press time the first division championship was starting with 13 clubs).

● IN PARAGUAY, Sol De America leads the first division with seven points after four games, followed by Olimpia with six.

Olimpia, who have just reached the Libertadores Cup final and are one of the best teams the country has had for quite some time, fielded reserves to rest their players for the Cup in the second game against Sol de America and were beaten 6-1.

Looking at soccer with DERICK ALLSOP

SHREWSBURY — GIANT-KILLERS

AN ENGLISH season which threatened to stretch beyond the bounds of human endurance closed with a welcome flourish and left us with a few fond moments branded on the memory after all.

It was the season that started in the warmth of August sunshine, came to a virtual standstill in the grip of an Arctic winter and sent transfer prices upwards at a scorching rate.

It was the season of the imports. Arnold Muhren gave Ipswich and the First Division rare poise and vision, Alex Sabella lit up an otherwise depressing campaign for Sheffield United and Ricardo Villa occasionally revealed skill and subtlety belying his bulky frame.

Alberto Tarantini's year in English football wasn't so pleasant or effective. In fairness to him he was pitched into an awful Birmingham side and a hopeless struggle against relegation. His eccentricities did nothing to help and at the end of the season Birmingham cut their losses by selling him back to Argentina.

Tarantini did, however, contribute something precious — the quote of the season. Asked why, if not as a result of a blow, Manchester United's Brian Greenhoff was left prostrate in his wake, the Argentinian shrugged his shoulders and said: "I think he was tired".

It was the fourth Argentinian, Osvaldo Ardiles, who proved the outstanding success. His balance, perception and unbridled commitment made him a leading crowd-puller and earned him second place in the writers' Footballer of the Year poll.

The award went to Kenny Dalglish, who led Liverpool through another record-breaking season. They won their 11th League Championship with 68 points and Ray Clemence conceded only 16 League goals.

Nottingham Forest were again the other giants. They knocked Liverpool out of the European Cup and went on to win it with a goal by Britain's first £1m. footballer, Trevor Francis. They retained the League Cup and were runners-up in the League. Full-back Viv Anderson became the first black footballer to play for England.

The PFA's top player was Liam Brady, who snatched the FA Cup back for Arsenal in that extraordinary climax to the final against Manchester United.

It was the season Crystal Palace clinched the Second Division Championship in a thrilling, fluctuating contest. Brighton reached Division One for the first time and Stoke squeezed in with them.

But it was also, and surely more splendidly, the season of Shrewsbury Town. The gentle, oak-beamed Shropshire settlement is a far cry from the likes of Manchester, Merseyside and the North-East. Here there are other pursuits in life and in the past football matches have been carefully scheduled to avoid clashes with ploughing competitions.

At their tiny Gay Meadow ground, alongside the River Severn, a mere 2,346 assembled for the first Third Division game against Brentford and even those faithfuls can't have foreseen the remarkable events and triumphs of the months ahead.

Viv Anderson, of Nottm. Forest.

Shrewsbury were to emerge as the season's FA Cup giant-killers, putting out Manchester City before their eventual defeat by Wolves in a quarter-final replay. They were to reach the Second Division for the first time as champions of the Third. And they were to round it all off by winning the Welsh Cup.

The man who guided Shrewsbury through the early stages of the season was Richie Barker. When he left to join John Barnwell at Wolves Shrewsbury tentatively handed the reins to Graham Turner, their 31-year-old player-coach and the club's most expensive signing at £30,000.

The team's impressive gallop continued and they kept pace with the more affluent Watford and Swansea at the top of the division. But it was in the FA Cup that Shrewsbury captivated a nationwide audience.

In the third round they defied the freeze to knock out Cambridge of the Second Division and in the fourth comfortably disposed of First Division Manchester City 2-0. The fifth round tie, against Fourth Division Aldershot, presented more problems and they were relieved to scrape through after a replay.

When they forced First Division Wolves to a quarter-final replay it seemed this buccaneering little team might go all the way. But at the Gay Meadow Wolves rescued their reputation and Shrewsbury, for once outclassed, had to bow out.

Shrewsbury used the profits of that Cup run to buy Liverpool reserve striker Trevor Birch. At £40,000 he was a new club record signing. He came into a side slightly hungover from the Cup, but they put their game together in the end to leap above Watford and Swansea and take the Third Division title.

Wrexham qualify

WREXHAM are again Wales' representatives in the European Cup-Winners' Cup next season – despite losing the Welsh Cup final.

They were beaten 2-1 on aggregate by Shrewsbury, the club who also succeeded them as Third Division champions.

But the Welsh Cup offers no passage to Europe for English clubs and Wrexham satisfied UEFA requirements by merely reaching the final.

Shrewsbury needed just five minutes to take the lead in the first leg at the Racecourse Ground. Trevor Birch flicked on Tony Larkin's pass and Steve Biggins hammered in the goal.

Wrexham's early play reflected the frustrations of their entire season, but a splendid goal struck from 20 yards by Steve Fox in the 31st minute restored their hopes.

Injuries to centre-half John Roberts and left-back Alan Dwyer reduced Wrexham to ten men for the last half-hour, however, and they went to the Gay Meadow for the second leg level.

Shrewsbury, who began that night by parading the Third Division trophy, struggled to turn their superiority into goals and seemed to be heading for victory on the away goals rule.

Then, with the night's last piece of action, Steve Cross and David Tong combined to set up a simple chance which was gleefully put away by Paul Maguire.

Another cup and another glorious night for Shrewsbury, but to Wrexham a place in Europe.

Bearzot — same again!

ITALIAN manager Enzo Bearzot (pictured right) has clearly decided that his World Cup men in Argentina are the ones to bid for the European championship next summer.

For, with the exception of Inter midfielder Gabriele Oriali and Milan stopper Fulvio Collovati, it was an as-you-were line-up which faced world champions Argentina in Rome.

And the 2-2 draw demonstrated once again that the national team has some magical effect on the Juventus men. Jaded after virtually two years non-stop football, they somehow clicked back into gear — even moody Franco Causio who hasn't been hitting it off with club coach Giovanni Trapattoni.

Bearzot claimed Italy would have won, had a justified penalty appeal been allowed Roberto Bettega in the second half.

* * *

TARCISIO BURGNICH, right back with Inter in their outstanding mid-1960s, has been suspended until the end of November. Now coach to Livorno, Burgnich made some uncomplimentary remarks about officials of Pisa.

* * *

LAZIO cut short their tour of Argentina after having two men sent off in a 3-0 defeat by Rosario Central and then losing 2-0 to San Martin . . . FIORENTINA'S players had to sit around in Tokyo airport for 20 hours on arrival for a club tournament because of trouble over their visas.

* * *

NOVARA of the third division are in trouble over accusations that in their eagerness to win promotion they tried to bribe goalkeeper Trolio of Lecco. BOLOGNA'S midfielder Antonio Juliano, a member of the 1970 World Cup squad, is retiring. ROMA'S Giancarlo De Sisti intended to as well, until he heard of Liedholm's appointment.

SHOCK FOR MILAN

by Keir Radnedge

ONLY in Italy could a club who have just landed the championship fall the next day into crisis and controversy.

But that has been the fate of Milan, whose tenth title triumph has been overshadowed by the shock departure of coach Nils Liedholm, the death of his assistant and Gianni Rivera's first-ever sending-off!

There had been talk of Liedholm returning home to Sweden to take over the national team, but after Milan president Felice Colombo offered him a new contract he was expected to stay another year.

Instead he dropped a bombshell in deciding to return to one of his previous clubs, Roma.

Liedholm's long love affair with Milan, the club he joined in the early 1950s, appeared over — particularly when he accused the club of stabbing him in the back.

What Liedholm objected to was not the fact that Milan had offered him a new contract for only one year — the league rules prohibit longer agreements — but that during the season efforts had been made to line up Torino's Gigi Radice and Perugia Ilario Castagner for his job.

Not that Liedholm would have been sacked. Instead he would have moved upstairs to take up the sort of counselling role which crusty Nereo Rocco hadn't fancied either before his recent death.

Milan's plotting was stymied when Radice was badly hurt in a car crash and Castagner agreed to stay another year with unbeaten league runners-up Perugia. Liedholm clearly didn't like being considered third choice after just taking Milan to the championship, and was only too pleased to accept the offer o" Roma's new president, Dino Viola.

The cash involved must have been overpowering, though Liedholm denied it was as much as the suggested £300,000 for a three-year 'agreement'. And he resented many of the accusations from stunned Milan *tifosi* that he had become a mercenary.

"All the figures people have been talking about are nonsense," said Liedholm. "Neither the figures I'll get at Roma, nor the talk of a £145,000 new contract with Milan. All Milan offered was a slight increase on what I'm getting now.

"I don't like being treated like some sort of speculator — playing off one against the other just to suit my own pocket. It's incredible, the things people will say and spread around to try to destroy a man. Incredible — and unjust.

"But I must say that this hasn't come about because of any disagreement with Gianni Rivera. He's always been straight with me. And he promised me that whenever I decided to retire as a trainer I could become *direttore tecnico* or head of the youth section. I still think Rivera and I together had a lot to give Milan. . . .

"I can understand why there was interest in bringing Radice back. He's a friend of mine and I suppose other people in the club thought because of that we could work well in tandem. But it just wasn't on. I like to hold all the reins if I'm in charge. That's just the way I am.

"That was early in the season, the talk of Radice. Then only a few weeks ago the club tried to get Castagner. He hasn't been able to deny it! That finished me off."

During the championship run-in, 57-year-old Liedholm and Castagner crossed swords several times about the merits and styles of their title-chasing teams. It's no surprise that Liedholm fancied working with Castagner even less than with Radice, who was, at least, a team-mate in the late 1950s.

The players were as shocked by Liedholm's decision as the fans, and it was a perplexed group who set off almost immediately on a tour of South America — where stand-in trainer Alvaro Gasparini died of a heart attack in Buenos Aires.

It was an ill-starred tour from the start. First, setting off without Liedholm, then skipper Rivera was unbelievably sent off by a home referee in a 1-1 draw with River Plate. His sin was to complain about a bad foul on him by Reinaldo Carlos Merlo. Referee Busca had little option but to send off the River Plate midfielder and then — in a manner familiar to visiting European teams — decided that the best way to keep the peace was to show Rivera the red card too.

Asked afterwards by Argentine journalists which of the teams Milan faced on tour had impressed him the most, he replied: "The referees — because they've tried the hardest to beat us."

Meanwhile, back in Milan, Udinese boss Massimo Giacomini was quitting Udinese to take over the champions.

His selection was almost as much a surprise for the fans as Liedholm's departure. Giacomini, now almost 40, had been a player briefly with Milan during an undistinguished career which also took him to Udinese, Genoa, Lazio, Brescia and Triestina.

But it's as a coach with Udinese that he's made his name, lifting them from the third division into — next season — the first. He has no experience of guiding a team in Europe — and Milan are desperate to do well in the Champions' Cup — but he is respected as an intelligent coach and there's plenty of European wisdom among his team.

The only complication about Liedholm's departure and his arrival concerns the transfer of relegated Vicenza's Paolo Rossi.

'Pablito' was looking forward to his likely transfer to play for Liedholm and Milan but the trainer's switch brought Roma into the market. Though Vicenza president Farina had agreed to give Milan first refusal, Roma put on the pressure with an agreement to sell Juventus their own centre forward Roberto Pruzzo in exchange for several Juve players Vicenza have been eyeing!

Roma aren't the only club with a new president. Luciano Conti has quit after nearly 10 thankless years presiding over a minefield at Bologna and the longest-serving president in *Serie A*, Nicola Ceravolo, has been ousted at Catanzaro.

At least Catanzaro are keeping their coach, Carlo Mazzone. He turned down an offer from Ascoli, who sacked Antonio Renna for demanding a pay rise. Now Ascoli will be guided by Gian Battista Fabbri, the man who achieved the remarkable in taking Vicenza from second division into Europe and back into the second division in successive seasons.

AFRICA '78

ALGERIA
Algeria 1 Egypt 1
Algeria 2 Libya 1
Algeria 3 Malawi 0
Algeria 2 Ghana 0
Algeria 1 Nigeria 0
Malawi 1 Algeria 1
Malawi 1 Algeria 2
Zambia 0 Algeria 3
Algeria 3 Congo 0

BENIN
Nigeria 7 Benin 0
Nigeria 2 Benin 0
Benin 0 Upper Volta 2
Upper Volta 3 Benin 0

BOTSWANA
Botswana 1 Mozambique 4
Botswana 0 Mozambique 2

CAMEROUN
Ghana 2 Cameroun 1
Nigeria 0 Cameroun 0
Mali 1 Cameroun 1

CONGO
Sudan 2 Congo 1
Uganda 3 Congo 1
Morocco 1 Congo 0
Tunisia 0 Congo 0
Algeria 3 Congo 0

EGYPT
Algeria 1 Egypt 1
Malawi 1 Egypt 4
Libya 0 Egypt 1

GAMBIA
Ghana 7 Gambia 1
Ghana 2 Zambia 1

GHANA
Ghana 7 Gambia 1
Ghana 2 Zambia 1
Ghana 1 Nigeria 1
Ghana 3 Upper Volta 0
Ghana 1 Tunisia 0
Ghana 2 Uganda 0
Ghana 4 Mali 1
Cameroun 1 Ghana 2
Mali 1 Ghana 1
Nigeria 0 Ghana 0
Algeria 2 Ghana 0
Malawi 0 Ghana 1

KENYA
Sudan 3 Kenya 0
Kenya 1 Lesotho 0
Tanzania 1 Kenya 0
Kenya 0 Tanzania 0
Malawi 1 Kenya 0
Uganda 1 Kenya 0
Somalia 0 Kenya 1
Zambia 9 Kenya 0
Malawi 2 Kenya 0
Uganda 0 Kenya 2

LESOTHO
Lesotho 0 Kenya 1
Lesotho 1 Mauritius 0

LIBYA
Libya 1 Tunisia B 0
Tunisia 2 Libya 1
Malawi 1 Libya 2
Algeria 2 Libya 1
Egypt 1 Libya 0

MALAWI
Mauritius 1 Malawi 2
Zambia 1 Malawi 2
Zambia 0 Malawi 0
Malawi 5 Sierra Leone 0
Malawi 4 Sierra Leone 2
Libya 2 Malawi 1
Egypt 4 Malawi 1
Algeria 3 Malawi 0
Nigeria 3 Malawi 2
Ghana 1 Malawi 0
Malawi 1 Algeria 1
Malawi 2 Algeria 1
Malawi 1 Kenya 0
Malawi 3 Somalia 1
Malawi 2 Zambia 1
Malawi 0 Uganda 2
Malawi 2 Kenya 0
Malawi 3 Zambia 2
Malagassy 2 Malawi 1

MALAGASSY
Malagassy 2 Malawi 1

● Continued next month

Results table

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	goals For	goals Against	success %
Malagassy	1	1	0	0	2	1	100
Mozambique	2	2	0	0	6	1	100
Reunion	1	1	0	0	2	0	100
Sudan	2	2	0	0	5	1	100
Egypt	3	2	1	0	6	2	83.3
Ghana	13	9	3	1	27	9	80.7
Algeria	9	6	2	1	17	5	77.7
Zambia	17	11	2	4	64	17	70.5
Nigeria	12	6	4	2	23	9	66.6
Malawi	19	9	2	8	31	28	52.6
Lesotho	2	1	0	1	1	1	50.0
Morocco	3	1	1	1	2	4	50.0
Tanzania	3	1	1	1	2	6	50.0
Uganda	11	5	1	5	15	17	50.0
Tunisia	7	2	2	3	6	7	42.8
Upper Volta	5	2	0	3	7	9	40.0
Libya	5	2	0	3	5	6	40.0
Kenya	10	3	1	6	4	17	35.0
Cameroun	3	0	2	1	2	3	33.3
Mali	4	0	2	2	4	9	25.0
Somalia	4	0	1	3	3	10	12.5
Congo	5	0	1	4	2	9	10.0
Benin	4	0	0	4	0	14	0.0
Botswana	2	0	0	2	1	6	0.0
Gambia	1	0	0	1	1	7	0.0
Mauritius	3	0	0	3	1	5	0.0
Sierra Leone	2	0	0	2	2	9	0.0
Swaziland	3	0	0	3	4	26	0.0

AFRICAN FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR
1970 Salif Keita (Mali)
1971 Ibrahim Sunday (Ghana)
1972 Cherif Soulemane (Guinea)
1973 Bwanga Tshimene (Zaire)
1974 Paul Moukila (Congo)
1975 Ahmed Faras (Morocco)
1976 Roger Milla (Cameroun)
1977 Tarek Dhiab (Tunisia)

1978:
ABDOUL RAZAK (Ghana)
2. Ali Ben Cheikh (Algeria)
3. Thomas N'Kono (Cameroun)
4. Christian Chukwu (Nigeria)
5. Bengally Sylla (Guinea)
6. Dhiab Tarek (Tunisia)
7. Temime Lahzani (Tunisia)
8. Manga Onguene (Cameroun)
9. Omondi (Uganda)
10. Hadefi (Algeria); Gommidh (Tunisia); Capita (Zambia)

CENTRAL AND EAST AFRICAN CUP 1978 in Malawi
Malawi 1 Kenya0; Malawi 3 Somalia 1; Zambia 2 Uganda 1; Zambia 4 Somalia 0; Uganda 1 Kenya 0; Kenya 1 Somalia 0; Malawi 2 Zambia 1; Somalia 2 Uganda 2; Zambia 9 Kenya 0; Uganda 2 Malawi 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zambia	4	3	0	1	16	3	6
Malawi	4	3	0	1	6	4	6
Uganda	4	2	1	1	6	4	5
Kenya	4	1	0	3	1	11	2
Somalia	4	0	1	3	3	10	1

Semi finals: Malawi 2 Kenya 0; Zambia 4 Uganda 0.
For third place: Kenya 2 Uganda 0.
Final: Malawi 3 Zambia 2.

African Nations Cup in Ghana
Group I (Accra)
Ghana 2 Zambia 1; Nigeria 4 Upper Volta 2; Zambia 2 Upper Volta 0; Ghana 1 Nigeria 1; Ghana 3 Upper Volta 0; Zambia 9 Nigeria 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana	3	2	1	0	6	2	5
Nigeria	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
Zambia	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Upper Volta	3	0	0	3	2	9	0

Group II (Kumasi)
Morocco 1 Tunisia 1; Congo 1 Uganda 3; Tunisia 3 Uganda 1; Morocco 1 Congo 0; Uganda 3 Morocco 0; Tunisia 0 Congo 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Uganda	3	2	0	1	7	4	4
Tunisia	3	1	2	0	4	2	4
Morocco	3	1	1	1	2	4	3
Congo	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Semi finals: Uganda 2 Nigeria 1; Ghana 1 Tunisia 0.
Third place match: Nigeria 1 Tunisia 1 (Nigeria won 2-0 because Tunisia walked off).
Final: Ghana 2 Uganda 0.

African Games in Algeria
Group A
Algeria 1 Egypt 1; Libya 2 Malawi 1; Egypt 4 Malawi 1; Algeria 2 Libya 1; Egypt 1 Libya 0; Algeria 3 Malawi 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt*	3	2	1	0	6	2	5
Algeria	3	2	1	0	6	2	5
Libya*	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Malawi	3	0	0	3	2	9	0

*Egypt and Libya withdrew after this stage.

Group B
Ghana 2 Cameroun 1; Nigeria 3 Mali 1; Ghana 1 Mali 1; Nigeria 0 Cameroun 0; Mali 1 Cameroun 1; Ghana 0 Nigeria 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	3	1	2	0	3	1	4
Ghana	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Cameroun	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Mali	3	0	2	1	3	5	2

Semi finals: Algeria 2 Ghana 0; Nigeria 3 Malawi 2.
For third place: Ghana 1 Malawi 0.
Final: Algeria 1 Nigeria 0.

Gerd Muller in action for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

Anglos in the USA

THREE years ago, when Southampton beat Manchester United 1-0 in the FA Cup Final, their hero was a young forward named Bobby Stokes.

Now Stokes is a hero again, in the United States, where he scored the opening goal of the new season, playing for Washington Diplomats against Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

The NASL still has a very English look about it, but this could soon change following the League's decision to ban all loans to the States after this summer.

The 92 clubs of the League had found themselves caught in a trap. Because of rising costs of football organisation and expense in ground improvements, clubs were pleased at one time to let their players go to America in the close season.

That way they didn't have to pay wages, and saved money. Also, as in the case of Frank Worthington of Bolton, a club showed it was possible to hold a star player by smoothing his way to feather his financial nest in the summer.

But there were drawbacks.

First players became aware of their power to hold the clubs to ransom and threaten transfers unless they were allowed a move to the U.S.

Secondly, the North American season starts before the English season ends, and ends after the new English season begins. That caused a hitch in the £1 million transfer of Trevor Francis to Nottingham Forest from Birmingham.

Francis wanted to play this summer for Detroit Express, with whom he was so successful a year ago. But to stay the summer would make him ineligible for the first couple of rounds of next season's European Cup!

Forest manager Brian Clough has always been opposed to the emigration of players during the summer. He always said they couldn't give of their best for their British clubs without a holiday.

In the case of Francis, Clough's hands were tied because the player had already agreed to return to Detroit before he ever thought of leaving Birmingham for Nottingham.

Francis is an example of the loan player. But English managers are becoming more and more worried that the Americans do not want to stop there — they want to buy players outright.

And it's not as, 10 years ago, when Third Division men were the targets. Nowadays some of England's best players are being tempted to transfer permanently to the United States

Several clubs have bid for Kevin Keegan, but perhaps the best-known England international in the US is Dennis Tueart.

A star left winger in Sunderland's shock 1973 FA Cup Final win over Leeds, Tueart later moved to Manchester City and achieved his dual ambition of playing for a First Division team and then for England.

But City have hardly been the happiest of clubs. Tueart became unsettled and New York Cosmos stepped in with a £250,000 bid about 18 months ago. Tueart helped his new club win the Soccer Bowl and hasn't thought of coming back.

English clubs are afraid more players will follow his example.

American clubs are prepared to pay far higher fees than their English cousins. Mike Flanagan, for example, the Charlton and England B forward, is rated at around £400,000 in England. But when he was about to join Tampa Bay the Americans were ready to pay virtually £800,000. Since then, of course, Flanagan spoiled it all.

He wanted to return to the club for whom he played last year, the New England Team Men, from Boston. They weren't prepared to match Tampa's original offer, so when Charlton refused them, Flanagan protested by walking out.

Only he seems to have been the loser.

But most English players offered the chance of a summer in the US haven't had to think twice. Rodney Marsh, one-time Clown Prince of English soccer when with Queen's Park Rangers and Manchester City, has been a consistent feature of the Tampa set-up.

But one man new to the US this summer is Alex Stepney. The former Manchester United goalkeeper — he was in their Champions' Cup winning team against Benfica in 1968 — is with Dallas Tornado and made a brilliant start in their 1-0 win over Detroit.

But then, Detroit were without Francis. Had he been playing it's likely Stepney would have been busier. Ten days earlier Francis had flown out to America on Concorde to play in Detroit's opening game of the season.

It was a friendly against Cosmos and Francis, incredibly, scored six times in Detroit's 8-2 win!

But British exports have not been limited only to players. Managers and coaches have gone West too.

Eddie Firmani, the South African who played for Charlton and then in Italy in the 1950s, was until recently the most envied export. After failing as a manager in the lower reaches in England he found himself in charge of Cosmos — which meant he was giving orders to Franz Beckenbauer, Giorgio Chinaglia, Carlos Alberto, Francisco Marinho and Co . . . until, that is, he was recently dismissed.

But Firmani had not been the only British failure to find a welcome in America. Last season 15 of their 24 coaches in the NASL were British — and none had scored any major success as a manager in England!

Don Megson was in charge at struggling Bristol Rovers in the Second Division when Seattle offered him a contract; Freddie Goodwin is manager at Minnesota Kicks, yet his only success in England was to take Birmingham out of the Second Division, and in the First they always faced a battle for survival.

Now Goodwin runs a team which includes Sweden's World Cup veteran Bjorn Nordqvist, and is well-thought-of.

In England there is a strong current of opinion that the US will soon be a major force in world football. It's an opinion based on the optimistic reports of players who go over and whose views are, perhaps, affected by the amounts of money they see being cast around.

But while many teams in the US play on synthetic turf and NASL games feature the "offside line" it will be much longer before the American revolution materialises.

Mount Wellington dominate

From ALAN CLARK

THE New Zealand 1979 soccer season has now reached the half-way stage with the Auckland team Mount Wellington still dominating the National League and leading by eight points. They have been having a great run and have been leaving every team in the league behind.

This is the first time in the National leagues ten-year history that a team has been so dominant.

With 12 teams in the Rothmans National League half are from the Northern Region with North Shore United, Eastern suburbs and Blockhouse Bay joining Mount Wellington from the Auckland area with Courier Rangers and Manurewa from the neighbouring Franklin Area.

It is felt in some circles that there is too much dominance of the National League by Northern teams.

This is not reflected in the tables at this stage as the Central Area Wellington Diamond United is in second place with Trans Tours United from Christchurch joint third with North Shore.

Making up the remainder of the Rothmans National League for this season is Stop Out from Wellington, Manawatu United from Palmerston North, and Nelson United all from the Central area and Dundein City the remaining Southern team with Trans Tours United.

Each season the three bottom teams are relegated with the winners of the Northern League, Central League and Southern League gaining promotion to the Rothmans National League.

Sponsorship is becoming the major reason for keeping the Rothmans National League alive as it takes more each season for these top teams to travel round the country.

Rothmans sponsor this top league to the tune of $60,000 a season and yet it is still a struggle for some of the top teams to stay alive.

Only three teams have full sponsorship and this is creeping in with name changes. Christchurch United were the first with a change to Trans Tours United with a five year contract to a travel firm. Now North Shore want to be called Hanimex North Shore as they have Hanimex behind them and Nelson are asking to be called Newman-Nelson United as they have just tied up a deal with a travel firm.

New Zealand's answer to the F.A. Cup is the Chatham Cup which is open to any team in the country.

The Preliminary rounds are now in progress and are kept regional to avoid big travelling expenses, with the Rothmans League teams being seeded into the later rounds.

Current holders are last year's "Team of the Year", Manurewa, who won the Northern League and promotion to the Rothmans League. The Adidas Trophy (a challenge trophy for winners of the Rothmans League and Chatham Cup) along with the Chatham Cup.

The New Zealand National team under the new coach John Adshead have played only one game this season against Norwich City in Auckland and went down 1-4.

USSR

by Terry Bushell

SOVIET HOPES ARE FADING

GROUP SIX of the European Championship remains as open as ever following the inconclusive 2-2 draw between the Soviet Union and Hungary in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi.

But Soviet hopes of qualifying for the finals appear to have faded. The Russians, playing without Dynamo Kiev's Vladimir Bessiniv and Moscow Spartak's Vagiz Thidiyatullin, failed to press home numerous scoring opportunities before a capacity 80,000 crowd in the Dynamo Tbilisi stadium.

The absence of the two regular midfield players, both recovering from injuries, seems to have affected the co-ordination of the faster and more accurate Soviet side.

The Soviet Union remains propping up Group 6, after Greece, Finland and Hungary, but with only three matches played it still has a chance of making the finals in Italy. Before the match they were considered the favourites, as not one of the other three sides were unbeaten and the USSR had not played as many games

Now a computer would be needed to work out all the possible permutations. But it does seem as if the contestants in Tbilisi have ruined each other's chances, though Hungary had not stood much chance before anyway, having previously lost 2-1 in Finland and being thrashed 4-1 in Greece. Their only win was 2-0 at home to the Russians.

Hungary are the Soviet Union's current bogey team, having also knocked them out of the last World Cup.

In Tbilisi, Hungary were even in front at one stage in the second half, Gyorgy Tatar and Laszlo Pusztai having cancelled out an early goal by Yuri Chesnokov. But 15 minutes from the end last season's Soviet Player of the Year Ramaz Shengelia, playing on his home ground, equalised.

The hosts had territorial advantage throughout the match and created many scoring chances but a fine performance in Hungary's goal by Zoltan Toth kept them out most of the time. And the Soviet side were always vulnerable to sharp counter-attacks from Tibor Nyilasi and Andrus Toeroecsik, the latter being the best player on the field.

In the twelve minutes between Pusztai's goal and Shengelia's equaliser, when the hosts were throwing everything into attack in a desperate attempt to even the score, Tatar and Pusztai each had an excellent chance to widen the score still further They were foiled only by the swift action of Soviet goalkeeper Nikolai Gontar.

The Soviet attacks throughout consisted mainly of individual efforts by Shengelia and Blokhin, an approach that stood little chance against the Hungarians' well-organised defence.

Scottish referee Brian McKinley showed the yellow card to Hungarian defender Peter Toeroek and then 18 minutes from the end sent off Soviet full-back Alexander Bubnov for rough play.

The game was the 16th between Hungary and the Soviet Union, with the Russians winning seven and the Hungarians four.

USSR: Nikolai Gontar, Alexander Bereznoi, Yuri Adjem, Alexander Bubnov, Alexander Makhovikov, Vitali Daraselya, Manuchar Machaidze, Vakhtang Koredze (David Kipiani, 70), Yuri Chesnkov (Vasili Zhupikov, 82), Ramaz Shengelia, Oleg Blokhin.

Hungary: — Zoltan Toth, Peter Toeroek (Martos, 23), Istvan Kocsis, Laszlo Balint, Jozsef Toth, Bela Kov (Tibor Rab, 55), Tibor Nyilasi, Gyorgy Tatar, Isv Magyar, Laszlo Pusztai, Andras Toeroecsik.

Shaktyor Donetsk and reigning champio Dynamo Tbilisi are running away with t Soviet "Supreme League."

Up to the week's Break in the League allow the national team to prepare for t game against Hungary, both were five poi clear of the field, with 15 points from eig matches.

Each drew 1-1 in away games up resumption of the League, Tbilisi at Mosc Spartak and Shaktyor at Pakhtakor Tashke and so remained unbeaten, with Shakty ahead on goal difference.

Following Shaktyor, in second, thi fourth and fifth positions, were all the sid belonging to the nationwide Dynamo spo club — Tbilisi, Moscow, Minsk and Kiev.

It is hard to say what makes Shaktyor tic With no outstanding players and notha particularly impressive about their play, th were the surprise of last season, with t chance to land the League and Cup doub before falling between two stools, and ha again got off to a cracking start this seaso

They were rather lucky at Pakhtak however, being handed the equaliser on plate twelve minutes from the end, havi trailed to a Fedorenko goal from t thirteenth minute.

Pakhtakor forward Tulyagan Isakov, ba "helping" his defenders in front of his o goal, calmly chested the ball down right at t feet of Churkin, who could hardly miss a didn't.

READERS' LETTERS

SIR — Thank you for sending me a copy of *World Soccer* in which your historical survey of the Mitropa Cup was published. Your article is indeed the best I have read about the Mitropa, even if there are some parts of good 'poetry' as regarding the death of Mathias Sindelar. I will keep it for use on further occasions.

Otto Demuth,
General Secretary,
Osterreichischer Fussball-Bund,
Vienna.

SIR — I greatly enjoyed the Mitropa Cup article. I was living in Vienna throughout the 1930s and football was my main hobby. I saw almost every home tie involving Austrian clubs and several away ones too. I have autographs of many of the players mentioned in your article including Sindelar and Bican. But as I remember the final scores for Admira against Bologna in 1934 were 3-2 and 1-5 (not 1-4) and the shambles over the tie with Genoa in 1937 was the result of fracas over a penalty awarded to Admira.

Peter Ritterman,
Ruislip, Middlesex.

SIR — Regarding your article on the world's best fans — Celtic fans were the first to travel in Europe when 20,000 went to Lisbon in 1967. They even had a planeload of fans who went to Argentina in 1967 for that infamous clash with Racing. Also, money wasn't so easy to come by in those days for the punters to travel.

John Duffy,
Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

SIR — I enjoy *World Soccer*, especially the pieces about Italian football. I wondered if you could help me please by supplying dates of certain matches?

Clifford Shelley,
Dagenham, Essex.

**UEFA Cup 1972: April 5 — Tottenham 2, Milan 1. April 19 — Milan 1, Tottenham 1. CWC Final, 1973 (Salonika): May 16 — Milan 1, Leeds 0. England v. Italy: June 14, 1973 (Turin) 0-2; Nov 14, 1973 (Wembley) 0-1; Nov 17, 1976 (Rome) 0-2; Nov 16, 1977 (Wembley) 2-0.*

SIR — Did Johan Neeskens play in all Ajax's Champions' Cup Finals? And is he really only 27?

Victor Anderson,
Willenhall, Coventry.

**Neeskens played in all three winning finals, against Panathinaikos (1971), Inter (1972) and Juventus (1973). But he didn't play in the 4-1 defeat by Milan in the 1969 Final. The only Ajax players to appear in all four games were Suurbier, Hulshoff, Cruyff and Keizer. Yes, Neeskens is only 27, though 28 in September.*

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EURO HISTORY

WORLD SOCCER EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

KEIR RADNEDGE continues his series on the important dates and details, facts and fixtures, of European football.

THE problem with compiling the sort of statistics with which this series is concerned is not limited merely to obtaining dates and places.

If that were all there was to it, the operation wouldn't be too difficult.

Last month in these pages we recorded all the post-1962 World Cup international results of the four home nations plus the Republic of Ireland.

The British tend to be good record-keepers, so those presented few problems. But moving into Europe — and the series will now proceed in alphabetical order — quirks arise.

In the case of one match, Greece v Bulgaria at the start of 1965, both Greek, Bulgarian and independent records gave different dates at variance of a fortnight! It was with the help of *World Soccer* colleague Eric Batty that I've nailed the match down to February 24.

These records do not include Olympic matches, and they do not include any of this year's results. These have all been listed in chronological order in the monthly European international review, and it is also custom for a collated repetition to appear every spring in any case.

To save clogging up the columns with initials, the only competitions signified are the World Cup (WC=qualifiers, WCF=finals) and European Championship (EC=qualifiers, ECF=Finals tournament, EC3rd=third-place match.)

ALBANIA

ALBANIA is remote even by Eastern European standards. Though members of FIFA and UEFA their participation in the various international events has been unreliable and, when they have come out of their shell, not surprisingly, unsuccessful.

It was only in the 1956 competition that they first appeared in the qualifying rounds of the World Cup and in six games collected only one point — a 1-1 draw with Northern Ireland in Tirana.

Despite snatching a crucial point off West Germany at home in the 1956 European championship — Yugoslavia were thus enabled to take the group — they missed the 1970 World Cup and, indeed, maintained the pattern by taking part in 1974, then skipping 1978.

In fact, since 1974 Albania's international record is almost non-existent. They played no full internationals in 1974, 1977 or 1978 and only three friendlies — all against Algeria — give them any sort of record in 1975 and 1976.

They missed the 1976 European championship and the present competition and one wonders what it will take to bring them back a little less far from the mainstream. At least Vllaznia Shkoder did take part in last season's Champions' Cup.

It'll be interesting to see whether the movements by their political heroes in China, who are slowly returning to the international establishment, will have any effect on Albanian xenophobia.

1953 Jun 29	Denmark	L	0-4	Copenhagen	EC
Oct 30	Denmark	W	1-0	Tirana	EC
1954 May 17	Holland	L	0-2	Rotterdam	WC
Oct 25	Holland	L	0-2	Tirana	WC
1955 Apr 11	Switzerland	L	0-2	Tirana	WC
May 2	Switzerland	L	0-1	Geneva	WC
May 7	N. Ireland	L	1-4	Belfast	WC
Nov 24	N. Ireland	D	1-1	Tirana	WC
1966 —					
1967 Apr 8	W. Germany	L	0-6	Dortmund	EC
May 14	Yugoslavia	L	0-2	Tirana	EC
Nov 12	Yugoslavia	L	0-4	Belgrade	EC
Dec 17	W. Germany	D	0-0	Tirana	EC
1968 —					
1969 —					
1970 Oct 14	Poland	L	0-3	Warsaw	EC
Dec 9	Turkey	L	1-2	Istanbul	EC
1971 Feb 17	W. Germany	L	0-1	Tirana	EC
May 12	Poland	D	1-1	Tirana	EC
Jun 12	W. Germany	L	0-3	Karlsruhe	EC
Nov 14	Turkey	W	3-0	Tirana	EC
1972 Jun 21	Finland	L	0-1	Helsinki	WC
Oct 29	Rumania	L	0-2	Bucharest	WC
1973 Apr 7	E. Germany	L	0-2	Magdeburg	WC
May 6	Rumania	L	1-4	Tirana	WC
Oct 10	Finland	W	1-0	Tirana	WC
Nov 3	E. Germany	L	1-4	Tirana	WC
1974 —					
1975 Jan 2	Algeria	L	2-4	Algiers	
1976 Oct 7	Algeria	W	3-0	Tirana	
Oct 11	Algeria	W	3-0	Tirana	
1977 —					
1978 —					

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup	27	5	3	19	19	54
From 1948 to WC '62	23	7	6	10	22	50
Total	50	12	9	29	41	104

AUSTRIA

The Austrians have one of the proudest of football histories, remember the Wunderteam of the 1930s and their renaissance which culminated in the World Cup Finals appearance last year was welcome.

They had been in the doldrums a long time. In fact they didn't enter for the 1962 World Cup because they thought their team wasn't good enough. Ironically, by the time the finals came around, Austria had one of the best teams in Europe!

The bubble burst immediately after the finals which they could only watch from a distance. A 6-0 home defeat by Czechoslovakia started the rot and they won only one game in the succeeding 18 months.

The European championship of 1964 saw them eliminated by the Republic of Ireland — a far weaker set-up then than now — and the gloom lasted until 1973 before there were signs of a new wave.

True, in the autumn of 1965, Austria scored a remarkable 3-2 win at Wembley — present captain Robert Sara made his debut that night, at 16 — but it was only with the coming of a new generation in Krankl, Jara and Co that Austria began to threaten.

In the 1974 World Cup they missed a place in the finals only after losing a play-off 2-1 to Sweden in Gelsenkirchen, but fulfilled the promise of those games four years later.

Krankl had now become a big star. Winner of the Golden Boot, coveted by many Spanish and German clubs, scorer of six goals in a 9-0 win over Malta, he shot Austria to Argentina where they reached the second round to general surprise and there scored a sweet 3-2 victory over West Germany.

Frequent changes of manager haven't helped though ÖFB president Karl Sekanina has worked hard trying to restore some professional continuity these last few years. But whether new team chief Karl Stotz — Helmut Senekowitsch quit after Argentina — is the man to maintain the progress remains to be seen.

1962 Sep 16	Czechoslovakia	L	0-6	Vienna	
Oct 28	Hungary	L	0-2	Budapest	
Nov 11	Italy	L	1-2	Vienna	
Nov 25	Bulgaria	D	1-1	Sofia	
1963 Apr 24	Czechoslovakia	W	3-1	Vienna	
May 8	Scotland	L	1-4	Glasgow	
Jun 9	Italy	L	0-1	Vienna	
Sep 25	Rep. Ireland	D	0-0	Vienna	EC
Oct 13	Rep. Ireland	L	2-3	Dublin	EC
Oct 27	Hungary	L	1-2	Budapest	
Dec 14	Italy	L	0-1	Turin	
1964 Apr 12	Holland	D	1-1	Amsterdam	
May 3	Hungary	W	1-0	Vienna	
May 14	Uruguay	L	0-2	Vienna	
Sep 27	Yugoslavia	W	3-2	Vienna	
Oct 11	Russia	W	1-0	Vienna	
1965 Mar 24	France	W	2-1	Paris	
Apr 25	E. Germany	D	1-1	Vienna	WC
May 16	Russia	D	0-0	Moscow	
Jun 13	Hungary	L	0-1	Vienna	W
Sep 5	Hungary	L	0-3	Budapest	W
Oct 9	W. Germany	L	1-4	Stuttgart	
Oct 20	England	W	3-2	Wembley	
Oct 31	E. Germany	L	0-1	Leipzig	W
1966 Apr 24	Russia	L	0-1	Vienna	
May 22	Rep. Ireland	W	1-0	Vienna	
Jun 19	Italy	L	0-1	Milan	
Sep 18	Holland	W	2-1	Vienna	
Oct 2	Finland	D	0-0	Helsinki	EC
Oct 5	Sweden	L	1-5	Stockholm	
Oct 30	Hungary	L	1-3	Budapest	
1967 May 27	England	L	0-1	Vienna	
Jun 11	Russia	L	3-4	Moscow	EC
Sep 6	Hungary	L	1-3	Vienna	
Sep 24	Finland	W	2-1	Vienna	EC
Oct 4	Greece	L	1-4	Athens	EC
Oct 15	Russia	W	1-0	Vienna	EC
Nov 5	Greece	D	1-1	Vienna	EC
			abn.		
1968 May 1	Rumania	D	1-1	Linz	
May 19	Cyprus	W	7-1	Vienna	
Jun 15	Russia	L	1-3	Leningrad	
Sep 22	Switzerland	L	0-1	Berne	
Oct 13	W. Germany	L	0-2	Vienna	WC
Nov 6	Scotland	L	1-2	Glasgow	WC
Nov 10	Rep. Ireland	D	2-2	Dublin	
1969 Apr 19	Cyprus	W	2-1	Nicosia	
Apr 23	Israel	D	1-1	Tel-Aviv	
Apr 27	Malta	W	3-1	Valetta	
May 10	W. Germany	L	0-1	Nuremberg	WC
Sep 21	W. Germany	D	1-1	Vienna	
Nov 5	Scotland	W	2-0	Vienna	WC
1970 Apr 8	Yugoslavia	D	1-1	Sarajevo	
Apr 12	Czechoslovakia	L	1-3	Vienna	
Apr 29	Brazil	L	0-1	Rio de Janeiro	
Sep 10	Yugoslavia	L	0-1	Graz	
Sep 27	Hungary	D	1-1	Budapest	
Oct 7	France	W	1-0	Vienna	
Oct 31	Italy	L	1-2	Vienna	EC
1971 Apr 4	Hungary	L	0-2	Vienna	
May 25	Sweden	L	3-1	Stockholm	EC
May 30	Rep. Ireland	W	4-1	Dublin	EC
Jul 11	Brazil	D	1-1	Sao Paulo	
Sep 4	Sweden	E	1-0	Vienna	
Oct 10	Rep. Ireland	W	6-0	Linz	EC
Nov 20	Italy	D	2-2	Rome	EC
1972 Apr 8	Czechoslovakia	L	0-2	Brno	
Apr 30	Malta	W	4-0	Vienna	WC
Jun 10	Sweden	W	2-0	Vienna	WC
Sep 3	Rumania	D	1-1	Craiova	
Oct 15	Hungary	D	2-2	Vienna	WC
Nov 25	Malta	W	2-0	Valetta	WC
1973 Mar 28	Holland	W	1-0	Vienna	
Apr 29	Hungary	D	2-2	Budapest	WC
May 23	Sweden	L	2-3	Gothenburg	WC
Jun 13	Brazil	D	1-1	Vienna	
Sep 26	England	L	0-7	Wembley	
Oct 10	W. Germany	L	0-4	Hanover	
Nov 27	Sweden	L	1-2	Gelsenkirchen	WC
1974 Mar 27	Holland	D	1-1	Rotterdam	
May 1	Brazil	D	0-0	Sao Paulo	
Jun 8	Italy	D	0-0	Vienna	
Sep 4	Wales	W	2-1	Vienna	EC
Sep 28	Hungary	W	1-0	Vienna	
Nov 13	Turkey	W	1-0	Istanbul	
1975 Mar 16	Luxembourg	W	2-1	Luxembourg	EC
Apr 2	Hungary	D	0-0	Vienna	EC
Jun 7	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0	Vienna	
Sep 3	W. Germany	L	0-2	Vienna	
Sep 24	Hungary	L	1-2	Budapest	EC
Oct 15	Luxembourg	W	6-2	Luxembourg	EC
Nov 19	Wales	L	0-1	Wrexham	EC
1976 Apr 28	Sweden	W	1-0	Vienna	
Jun 12	Hungary	L	0-2	Budapest	
Jun 23	Russia	L	1-2	Vienna	
Sep 22	Switzerland	W	3-1	Linz	
Oct 13	Hungary	L	2-4	Vienna	
Nov 10	Greece	W	3-0	Kavalla	
Dec 5	Malta	W	1-0	Valetta	WC
Dec 15	Israel	W	3-1	Tel-Aviv	
1977 Mar 9	Greece	W	2-0	Vienna	
Apr 17	Turkey	W	1-0	Vienna	WC
Apr 30	Malta	W	9-0	Salzburg	WC
Jun 1	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0	Ostrava	
Aug 24	Poland	W	2-1	Vienna	

Sep 24	E. Germany	D	1-1	Vienna	WC
Oct 12	E. Germany	D	1-1	Leipzig	WC
Oct 30	Turkey	W	1-0	Izmir	WC
1970 Feb 15	Greece	D	1-1	Athens	
Mar 22	Belgium	L	0-1	Charleroi	
Apr 4	Switzerland	W	1-0	Basle	
May 20	Holland	L	0-1	Vienna	
Jun 3	Spain	W	2-1	Buenos Aires	WCF
Jun 7	Sweden	W	1-0	Buenos Aires	WCF
Jun 11	Brazil	L	0-1	Mar del Plata	WCF
Jun 14	Holland	L	1-5	Cordoba	WCF
Jun 18	Italy	L	0-1	Buenos Aires	WCF
Jun 21	W. Germany	W	3-2	Cordoba	WCF
Aug 30	Norway	W	2-0	Oslo	EC
Sep 20	Scotland	W	3-2	Vienna	EC
Nov 15	Portugal	L	1-2	Vienna	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup (to end 1978)	121	42	28	51	154	163
From 1902 to WC '62	287	136	54	97	673	549
Total	408	178	82	148	827	712

BELGIUM

THE Belgians have been an international disappointment for a long time.

Once they were easy part-time meat. That's reflected in their pre-WC '62 figures which show 139 defeats in 292 games. But considering the players they've raised since then, considering the professional progress made by Anderlecht, Brugge and Standard Liege, they remain among Europe's outsiders.

Between 1963 and 1965 the team based on the four-in-line offside and possession tactics of Anderlecht excelled in friendlies, such as the 2-2 draw at Wembley with Anderlecht.

With Jef Jurion pulling the strings in midfield and Paul Van Himst the wonder boy in attack, they appeared to have a bright future. Instead, they let Bulgaria pip them to a 1966 World Cup Finals place in a Florence play-off and though they battled their way through an ill-tempered group to Mexico in 1970 too many factors were against them.

For one thing Van Himst, who had already once walked out on the national team, had an unhappy time in Mexico City; for another an appalling refereeing decision went against them at a crucial moment against hosts Mexico; for yet another there was too much internal rivalry between the players of different clubs.

The Belgians, shrewdly guided by Raymond Goethals, succeeded in finishing third in the European championship finals staged in Belgium in 1972, but all their routes towards the top have been closed since by Holland.

The Dutch eliminated Belgium in both the 1974 and 1978 qualifiers, as well as knocking them out of the 1976 European championship quarter finals. Ironically it was a hat-trick by Rob Rensenbrink, who has played all his major club football in Belgium, which did the damage.

1962 Oct 14	Holland	W	2-0	Antwerp	
Nov 4	Yugoslavia	L	2-3	Belgrade	EC
Dec 2	Spain	D	1-1	Spain	
1963 Mar 3	Holland	W	1-0	Rotterdam	
Mar 31	Yugoslavia	L	0-1	Brussels	EC
Apr 24	Brazil	W	5-1	Brussels	
Oct 20	Holland	D	1-1	Amsterdam	
Dec 1	Spain	W	2-1	Valencia	
1964 Mar 22	Holland	D	0-0	Antwerp	
Apr 15	Switzerland	L	0-2	Geneva	
May 3	Portugal	L	1-2	Brussels	
Sep 30	Holland	W	1-3	Antwerp	
Oct 21	England	D	2-2	Wembley	
Dec 2	France	W	3-0	Brussels	
1965 Mar 24	Rep. Ireland	W	2-0	Dublin	
Apr 7	Poland	D	0-0	Brussels	
May 9	Israel	W	1-0	Brussels	WC
Jun 2	Brazil	L	0-5	Rio de Janeiro	
Sep 26	Bulgaria	L	0-3	Sofia	WC
Oct 27	Bulgaria	W	5-0	Brussels	WC
Nov 10	Israel	W	5-0	Tel-Aviv	WC
Dec 29	Bulgaria	L	1-2	Hermice	WC
1966 Apr 17	Holland	L	1-3	Rotterdam	
Apr 20	France	L	0-3	Paris	
May 22	Russia	L	0-1	Brussels	
May 25	Rep. Ireland	L	2-3	Liege	
Oct 22	Switzerland	W	1-0	Bruges	
Nov 11	France	W	2-1	Brussels	EC
1967 Mar 19	Luxembourg	W	5-0	Luxembourg	EC
Apr 16	Holland	W	1-0	Antwerp	
May 21	Poland	L	1-3	Chorzow	EC
Oct 8	Poland	L	2-4	Brussels	EC
Oct 28	France	D	1-1	Nantes	EC
Nov 22	Luxembourg	W	3-0	Bruges	EC
1968 Jan 10	Israel	W	2-0	Jaffa	
Mar 6	W. Germany	L	1-3	Brussels	
Apr 7	Holland	W	2-1	Amsterdam	
Apr 24	Russia	L	0-1	Moscow	
Jun 19	Finland	W	2-1	Helsinki	WC
Oct 9	Finland	W	6-1	Waregem	WC
Oct 16	Yugoslavia	W	3-0	Brussels	WC
Dec 11	Spain	D	1-1	Madrid	WC
1969 Feb 23	Spain	W	2-1	Liege	WC
Apr 16	Mexico	W	2-0	Brussels	
Oct 19	Yugoslavia	L	0-4	Skopje	WC
Nov 5	Mexico	L	0-1	Mexico City	
1970 Feb 25	England	L	1-3	Brussels	
Jun 3	El Salvador	W	3-0	Mexico City	
Jun 6	Russia	L	1-4	Mexico City	WCF
Jun 11	Mexico	L	0-1	Mexico City	WCF
Nov 15	France	L	1-2	Brussels	
Nov 25	Denmark	W	2-1	Bruges	EC
1971 Feb 3	Scotland	W	3-0	Liege	EC
Feb 17	Portugal	W	3-0	Brussels	EC
May 20	Luxembourg	W	4-0	Luxembourg	
May 26	Denmark	W	2-1	Copenhagen	EC
Nov 7	Luxembourg	W	1-0	Verviers	
Nov 10	Scotland	L	0-1	Aberdeen	EC
Nov 21	Portugal	D	1-1	Lisbon	EC
1972 Apr 24	Italy	D	0-0	Milan	EC
May 13	Italy	W	2-1	Brussels	EC
May 18	Iceland	W	4-0	Liege	WC
May 22	Iceland	W	4-0	Bruges	WC
Jun 14	W. Germany	L	1-2	Antwerp	ECF
Jun 17	Hungary	W	2-1	Liege	EC 3rd
Oct 4	Norway	W	2-0	Oslo	WC
Nov 19	Holland	D	0-0	Antwerp	WC
1973 Apr 18	E. Germany	W	3-0	Antwerp	
Oct 31	Norway	W	2-0	Brussels	WC
Nov 18	Holland	D	0-0	Amsterdam	WC
1974 Mar 13	E. Germany	L	0-1	E. Berlin	
Apr 17	Poland	D	1-1	Liege	
May 1	Switzerland	W	1-0	Geneva	
Jun 1	Scotland	W	2-1	Bruges	
Sep 8	Iceland	W	2-0	Reykjavik	EC
Oct 12	France	W	2-1	Brussels	EC
Dec 7	E. Germany	D	0-0	Leipzig	EC
1975 Apr 30	Holland	W	1-0	Antwerp	
Sep 6	Iceland	W	1-0	Liege	EC
Sep 27	E. Germany	L	1-2	Brussels	EC
Nov 15	France	D	0-0	Paris	EC
1976 Apr 25	Holland	L	0-5	Rotterdam	EC
May 22	Holland	L	1-2	Brussels	EC
Sep 5	Iceland	W	1-0	Reykjavik	WC
Nov 10	N. Ireland	W	2-0	Liege	WC
1977 Jan 26	Italy	L	1-2	Rome	
Mar 26	Holland	L	0-2	Antwerp	WC
Sep 3	Iceland	W	4-0	Brussels	WC
Oct 26	Holland	L	0-1	Amsterdam	WC
Nov 16	N. Ireland	L	0-3	Belfast	WC
Dec 21	Italy	L	0-1	Liege	
1978 Mar 22	Austria	W	1-0	Charleroi	
Apr 19	E. Germany	D	0-0	Magdeburg	
Sep 20	Norway	D	1-1	Lokeren	EC
Oct 11	Portugal	D	1-1	Lisbon	EC
Nov 15	Israel	L	0-1	Tel-Aviv	

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup (to end 1978)	96	46	17	33	140	100
From 1904 to WC '62	292	97	56	139	571	693
Total	388	143	73	172	711	799

BULGARIA

THE recent demise of Bulgaria can be simply demonstrated by the fact that not since Russia beat them 4-0 some 22 years ago, had Bulgaria suffered a heavier defeat in Sofia than that inflicted by England recently.

Bulgaria have produced some fine players over the years. Starting with Ivan Kolev in the 1950s, then Todor Diev, Gundi Asparoukhov, Dimiter Yakimov and finally Hristo Bonev. But now the limited production line seems to have finished and though Pavel Panov remains a good player, his career has been too heavily blighted by injury and suspension.

Hristo Bonev, Bulgaria's record international, played in fact in the recent game in Argentina and one would have thought this experience might still be of value in the national team.

Instead the Bulgarians have lost even their reputation of being a tough side to beat. Northern Ireland's win in Sofia surely made that point.

England had found them hard before. In the 1962 World Cup they drew 0-0, and five years later England just snipped a 1-0 win in Sofia in a tour friendly.

Apart from that the Bulgarians have been a regular sight on the international scene without entertaining anyone.

They were also at the World Cups in 1966, 1970 and 1974, though in 1966, as in 1962, they needed a play-off at the end of their qualifying group to get there. However, in 12 games in the final tournaments they have yet to produce the positive aggression to win a game and the European championship has passed them by as well.

Presumably national team manager Tzvetan Ilchev will soon join the long list of dismissals and it may not be until the Bulgarians import a senior man from one of their Communist neighbours — as they did once with Rudolf Vytlacil — that they will show signs of improvement.

1962 Sep 30	Poland	W	2-1	Sofia	
Nov 7	Portugal	W	3-1	Sofia	EC
Nov 25	Austria	D	1-1	Sofia	
Dec 16	Portugal	L	1-3	Lisbon	EC
1963 Jan 23	Portugal	W	1-0	Rome	EC
Apr 25	Czechoslovakia	W	1-0	Sofia	
Sep 4	E. Germany	D	1-1	Magdeburg	
Sep 29	France	W	1-0	Sofia	EC
Oct 26	France	L	1-3	Paris	EC
1964 Nov 29	Russia	D	0-0	Sofia	
Dec 20	Turkey	D	0-0	Istanbul	
1965 Feb 24	Greece	W	2-1	Athens	
May 9	Turkey	W	4-1	Sofia	
May 16	Poland	D	1-1	Krakow	
Jun 13	Israel	W	4-0	Sofia	WC
Sep 5	E. Germany	W	3-2	Vrana	
Sep 26	Belgium	W	3-0	Sofia	WC
Oct 27	Belgium	L	0-5	Brussels	WC
Nov 21	Israel	W	2-1	Tel-Aviv	WC
Dec 21	Portugal	W	1-0	Sofia	
Dec 29	Belgium	W	2-1	Florence	WC
1966 Feb 26	Egypt	L	1-2	Cairo	
Feb 28	Egypt	D	2-2	Cairo	
Jun 1	Yugoslavia	W	2-0	Belgrade	
Jun 14	Italy	L	1-6	Bologna	
Jul 12	Brazil	L	0-2	Liverpool	WCF
Jul 16	Portugal	L	0-3	Manchester	WCF
Jul 20	Hungary	L	1-3	Manchester	WCF
Nov 6	Yugoslavia	W	6-1	Sofia	
Nov 13	Norway	W	4-2	Sofia	EC
1967 Mar 22	W. Germany	L	0-1	Hanover	
Jun 11	Sweden	W	2-0	Stockholm	EC
Jun 25	Poland	W	3-2	Sofia	
Jun 29	Norway	D	0-0	Oslo	EC
Oct 8	Russia	L	1-2	Sofia	
Nov 12	Sweden	W	3-0	Sofia	EC
Nov 26	Portugal	W	1-0	Sofia	EC
Dec 17	Portugal	D	0-0	Lisbon	EC
1968 Apr 6	Italy	W	3-2	Sofia	EC
Apr 20	Italy	L	0-2	Naples	EC
Oct 9	Turkey	W	2-0	Istanbul	
Oct 27	Holland	W	2-0	Sofia	WC
Dec 11	England	D	1-1	Wembley	
1969 Apr 23	Luxembourg	W	2-1	Sofia	WC
May 24	Italy	D	0-0	Turin	
Jun 15	Poland	W	4-1	Sofia	WC
Sep 24	W. Germany	L	0-1	Sofia	
Oct 22	Holland	D	1-1	Rotterdam	WC
Nov 9	Poland	L	0-3	Warsaw	WC
Dec 7	Luxembourg	W	3-1	Luxembourg	WC
Dec 28	Morocco	L	0-3	Casablanca	
1970 Feb 15	Mexico	D	1-1	Mexico City	
Feb 20	Mexico	L	0-2	Leon	
Feb 23	Peru	W	3-1	Lima	
Feb 25	Peru	L	3-5	Lima	
Apr 8	France	D	1-1	Rouen	
May 5	Russia	D	3-3	Sofia	
Jun 2	Peru	L	2-3	Leon	WCF
Jun 7	W. Germany	L	2-5	Leon	WCF
Jun 11	Morocco	D	1-1	Leon	WCF
1971 Apr 7	Greece	W	1-0	Athens	
May 19	Hungary	W	3-0	Sofia	EC
Jun 9	Norway	W	4-1	Oslo	EC
Sep 26	Hungary	L	0-2	Budapest	EC
Nov 10	France	L	1-2	Nantes	EC
Nov 17	Greece	D	2-2	Sofia	
1972 Mar 29	Russia	D	1-1	Sofia	
Jun 7	Russia	L	0-1	Moscow	
Jun 21	Italy	D	1-1	Sofia	
Oct 18	N. Ireland	W	3-0	Sofia	WC
Nov 19	Cyprus	W	4-0	Nicosia	WC
1973 Jan 28	Cyprus	W	3-0	Nicosia	
Jan 31	Greece	D	2-2	Athens	
Feb 4	Indonesia	W	4-0	Djakarta	
Feb 14	Australia	D	2-2	Sydney	
Feb 16	Australia	W	3-1	Adelaide	
Feb 18	Australia	W	2-0	Melbourne	
Mar 28	Russia	W	1-0	Plovdiv	
Apr 18	Turkey	L	2-5	Izmir	
May 2	Portugal	W	2-1	Sofia	WC
May 12	W. Germany	L	0-3	Hamburg	
Aug 19	Poland	L	0-2	Varna	
Sep 26	N. Ireland	D	0-0	Sheffield	WC
Oct 13	Portugal	D	2-2	Lisbon	WC
Nov 18	Cyprus	W	2-0	Sofia	WC
1974 Feb 6	Cyprus	W	4-1	Morfou	
Feb 8	Kuwait	W	3-1	Kuwait	
Feb 10	Kuwait	W	2-1	Kuwait	
Feb 13	Greece	L	0-1	Athens	
Feb 20	Malta	W	2-1	Valetta	
Mar 31	Hungary	L	1-3	Zalaegerszeg	
Apr 12	Brazil	L	0-1	Rio de Janeiro	
Apr 13	Czechoslovakia	L	0-1	Plovdiv	
May 3	Turkey	W	5-1	Sofia	
May 26	N. Korea	W	6-1	Sofia	
May 29	N. Korea	W	2-0	Sofia	
Jun 2	England	L	0-1	Sofia	
Jun 15	Sweden	D	0-0	Dusseldorf	WCF
Jun 19	Uruguay	D	1-1	Hanover	WCF
Jun 23	Holland	L	1-4	Dortmund	WCF
Sep 25	Rumania	D	0-0	Sofia	
Oct 13	Greece	D	3-3	Sofia	EC
Oct 17	Russia	D	1-1	Moscow	
Nov 10	Hungary	D	0-0	Varna	
Dec 18	Greece	L	1-2	Athens	EC
Dec 29	Italy	D	0-0	Genoa	
1975 Mar 26	E. Germany	D	0-0	E. Berlin	
Apr 27	W. Germany	D	1-1	Sofia	EC
Jun 11	Malta	W	5-0	Sofia	EC
Nov 19	W. Germany	L	0-1	Stuttgart	EC
Dec 21	Malta	W	2-0	Valetta	EC
1976 Jan 25	Japan	W	3-1	Tokyo	
Jan 28	Japan	D	1-1	Osaka	
Feb 2	Japan	W	3-0	Tokyo	
Mar 24	Russia	L	0-3	Sofia	
May 11	Rumania	W	1-0	Tarnovo	
Aug 17	Switzerland	D	2-2	Lucerne	
Sep 22	Turkey	D	2-2	Sofia	
Oct 9	France	D	2-2	Sofia	WC
Oct 27	E. Germany	L	0-4	Sofia	
Nov 28	Rumania	L	2-3	Iribesti	

● Continued overleaf

● Continued from previous page

1977	Jan 11	Algeria	D	1-1	Algiers	
	Jan 23	Brazil	L	0-1	Sao Paulo	
	Jan 30	Cyprus	W	2-1	Nicosia	
	Feb 16	Turkey	L	0-2	Istanbul	
	Apr 13	Denmark	W	3-1	Sofia	
	Jun 1	Rep. Ireland	W	2-1	Sofia	WC
	Sep 21	Turkey	W	3-1	Sofia	
	Oct 12	Rep. Ireland	D	0-0	Dublin	WC
	Oct 26	Greece	D	3-3	Sofia	
	Nov 16	France	L	1-3	Paris	WC
1978	Feb 22	Scotland	L	1-2	Glasgow	
	Mar 30	Argentina	L	1-3	Buenos Aires	
	Apr 2	Peru	D	1-1	Lima	
	Apr 5	Mexico	L	0-3	Mexico City	
	Apr 23	Czechoslovakia	D	0-0	Brno	
	Apr 26	Poland	L	0-1	Warsaw	
	May 3	Rumania	L	0-2	Bucharest	
	May 31	Rumania	D	1-1	Sofia	
	Aug 4	Rumania	W	2-0	Varna	
	Aug 30	E. Germany	D	2-2	Erfurt	
	Sep 20	Italy	L	0-1	Turin	
	Oct 11	Denmark	D	2-2	Copenhagen	EC
	Nov 29	N. Ireland	L	0-2	Sofia	EC

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Since 1962 World Cup (to end 1978)	144	56	43	45	218	189
From 1924 to WC '62	133	46	24	63	199	291
Total	277	102	67	108	417	480

League Tables

BELGIUM
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beveren-Waas	34	19	11	44	62	24	49
Anderlecht	34	21	3	10	76	41	45
Standard Leige	34	17	10	7	46	30	44
Lokeren	34	16	10	8	54	33	42
RWD Molenbeek	34	17	7	10	57	41	41
FC Bruges	34	14	10	10	51	49	38
SC Charleroi	34	13	8	13	43	47	34
Antwerp	34	10	14	10	42	40	34
Lierse SK	34	13	7	14	44	48	33
Winterslag	34	10	13	11	45	47	33
Waterschei	34	10	12	12	42	44	32
Beerschot	34	12	7	15	49	51	31
Beringen	34	9	11	14	38	47	29
Waregem	34	7	15	12	33	47	29
Berchem	34	8	12	14	30	46	28
Luttich	34	10	6	18	49	55	26
La Louviere	34	8	8	18	45	79	24
Kortrijk	34	5	10	19	27	61	20

DENMARK
Final League Table 1978

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vejle	30	19	6	5	64	33	44
Esbjerg	30	16	8	6	50	32	40
AGF	30	15	9	6	52	39	39
Odense BK	30	15	8	7	53	39	38
B1903 Copenhagen	30	13	9	8	46	32	35
KB Copenhagen	30	14	4	11	54	39	34
B93 Copenhagen	30	12	9	9	45	40	33
Slagelse Boldklub	30	10	10	10	50	53	30
Idraetsklubben	30	10	8	12	47	49	28
Frem Copenhagen	30	10	8	12	30	34	28
Lastrup	30	9	7	14	38	40	25
B1901 Nykobing	30	8	8	14	49	59	24
Haesleved	30	9	6	15	35	47	24
Fredrikshavn	30	7	7	16	37	53	21
Koge	30	7	7	16	28	53	21
Randers Freja	30	6	4	20	29	68	16

FRANCE
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Strasbourg	38	22	12	4	66	28	56
Nantes	38	23	8	7	65	33	54
St.-Etienne	38	24	6	9	77	34	54
Monaco	38	18	8	12	70	51	44
Metz	38	19	6	13	61	55	44
Lille	38	11	18	9	67	62	40
Lyon	38	15	10	13	53	56	40
Nimes	38	15	9	14	61	60	39
Sochaux	38	15	9	14	63	53	39
Bordeaux	38	12	16	11	45	42	39
Nancy	38	15	8	15	77	61	38
Marseille	38	12	13	13	50	58	37
St.-Germain	38	14	8	16	59	66	36
Bastia	38	13	9	16	53	65	35
Nice	38	11	10	17	58	75	32
Laval	38	8	14	16	53	73	30
Angers	38	8	14	16	37	68	30
Valenciennes	38	9	10	19	36	65	28
Paris	38	9	10	19	42	77	28
Reims	38	3	11	24	28	71	17

GREECE
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK Athens	34	25	6	3	90	30	56
Olympiakos	34	26	5	4	61	25	56
Aris Salonika	34	22	6	6	63	26	50
PAOK Salonika	34	18	9	7	73	23	45
Panathinaikos	34	14	10	10	46	37	38
Heraklis	34	12	10	12	48	46	34
OFI Crete	34	14	6	14	37	42	34
Ethnikos	34	14	4	16	36	50	32
Kastoria	34	10	11	13	31	42	31
Apollon	34	10	9	15	37	42	29
Rhodes	34	13	3	18	50	64	29
Larissa	34	12	5	17	34	53	29
Iannina	34	9	10	15	28	40	28
Panionios	34	9	10	15	37	50	28
Patras	34	9	9	16	26	37	27
Kavala	34	12	3	19	34	56	27
Aigaleo	34	10	6	18	34	56	26
Serres	34	4	5	25	17	63	13

SPAIN
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	34	16	15	3	61	36	47
Gijon	34	17	9	8	50	35	43
Atletico Madrid	34	14	13	7	55	37	41
Real Sociedad	34	18	5	11	53	36	41
Barcelona	34	16	6	12	69	37	38
Las Palmas	34	14	9	11	49	43	37
Valencia	34	14	7	13	44	38	35
Espanol Barcelona	34	16	5	14	37	46	35
Athletic Bilbao	34	12	10	12	56	46	34
Salamanca	34	13	8	13	36	40	34
Seville	34	12	9	13	47	48	33
Hercules Alicante	34	13	6	15	32	38	32
Burgos	34	10	12	12	37	47	32
Real Zaragoza	34	12	6	16	56	69	30
Rayo Vallecano	34	9	11	14	31	54	29
Celta Vigo	34	9	10	15	35	55	28
Santander	34	9	4	21	36	63	22
Huelva	34	8	5	21	39	65	21

South American Club Championships

March 29

PALESTINO (Chile) (1) 1 (Fabbiani)
O'Higgins (Chile) 0

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Fuentes, Figueroa, Varas, Herrera, Zelada, M. Rojas, Pinto (Lazbal), Fabbiani (Messen), Labarthe.

O'Higgins: Leyes, Droguett, Serrano, Gatica, Valenzuela, Bonvalet, Quiroz, Neira, Farias, Vargas, Pizarro (Ahumada).

PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (0) 1 (Orlois)
GALICIA (Venezuela) (1) 1 (Leon)

April 11

O'HIGGINS (Chile) (0) 1 (Pizarro)
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) (1) 1 (Villarroel)

O'Higgins: Leyes, Droguett, Valenzuela, Gatica, Serrano, Quiroz, Bonvalet, Neira, Farias (Aujardot), Vargas (Ahumada), Pizarro.

Portuguesa: Romero, Ochoa, Amato, Barrera, Salas, Moss, Moreno, Paez, Villarroel, Peralta, Echenausi (Lizarraga).

PALESTINO (Chile) (5) 5 (Lazbal 2, Messen, Zelanda, Acosta o.g.)
GALICIA (Venezuela) 0

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Fuentes, Figueroa, Varas, Herrera, Zelada, Rojas, Lazbal, Messen, Pinto.

Galicia: Jimenez, Valenzuela, Castro, Acosta, Rios, Arias, Valdivia, Ramirez, Cabrera, Soto, Russo.

April 15

PALESTINO (Chile) (2) 6 (Zelada (1 pen.), Rojas, Messen)
PORTUGUESA (Venezuela) 0

Palestino: Araya, Gonzalez, Fuentes, Figueroa, Varas, Dubo, Rojas, Zelada, Lazbal, Messen, Pinto.

Portuguesa: Romero, Amato, Barrera, Moss, Salas, Villarroel, Moreno, Paez, Gardenal, Peralta, Uzarraga.

O'HIGGINS (Chile) (2) 6 (Gatica, Farias, Ahumada, Quiroz, Neira pen., Valenzuela)
GALICIA (Venezuela) 0

O'Higgins: Leyes, Droguett, Valenzuela, Gatica, Serrano, Bonvalet, Quiroz, Neira, Farias, Vargas (Ahumada), Pizarro.

Galicia: Jimenez, Cecilio, Castro, Acosta, Perez, Valdivia, Leon, Ramirez, Gonzalez, Soto, Cabrera (Valdivia sent off 77 min.)

Group 4 — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PALESTINO (Chile)	6	4	2	0	16	2	10
O'Higgins (Chile)	6	2	3	1	10	4	7
Portugesa (Venezuela)	6	0	4	2	4	13	4
Galicia (Venezuela)	6	0	3	3	3	16	3

Group 5

March 4

NACIONAL (Ecuador) 2
TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) 1
NACIONAL (Uruguay) 0
PENAROL (Uruguay) 0

Nacional: R. Rodriguez, Moreyra, Moller, Mac De Leon, De La Peña, Lutherd, Marchetti, Bica (Cal Victorino, Ocampo.

Peñarol: Fossati, Morales, Olivera, Zoryez, Marce Maneiro, Unanue, J. Rodriguez, Quevedo (Ab Moreno, Paz.

March 13

PENAROL (Uruguay) (2) 4 (Morena 3, Ramos)
TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) 0

Peñarol: Fossati, Olivera, Marcenaro, Zoryez, Mo Rodriguez, Unanue, Maneiro, Ramos (Abaldo), Mo Paz (Quevedo).

Tecnico Universitario: Duarte, Erazo, Guevara, R Paredes, R. Parraga, Burbano, Jimenez, Aguirre (E Zelaya, R. Parraga (Medina).

March 16

NACIONAL (Uruguay) (1) 2 (De La Peña, Ocampo
TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) 0

Nacional: R. Rodriguez, Moller, De Leon, Mor Agresta, Machado, Bica, De La Peña, Victorino (Fr Ocampo, Marchetti.

Tecnico Universitario: Duarte, Guevara, Russo, E Paredes, W. Parraga, Burbano (Medina), Jim Aguirre, Zelaya, R. Parraga (Espin).

March 30

NACIONAL (Uruguay) (2) 3 (Victorino 3)
NACIONAL (Ecuador) 0

Nacional (Uy.): R. Rodriguez, Moreyra, Moller Leon, Machado (Blanco), De La Peña, Agresta (Lut Marchetti, Bica, Victorino, Ocampo.

Nacional (Ec.): Delgado, Perlaza, Swett, Zaldum Escalante, Granda (Saa), C. Ron, Villafuerte, Bara (Guerrero), V. Ron, Correa.

March 23

PEÑAROL (Uruguay) (0) 2 (Ramos, Anzorena)
NACIONAL (Ecuador) (1) 1 (Villafuerte)

Peñarol: Fossati, Olivera, Marcenaro, Zoryez, Mo Rodriguez (Saralegui), Unanue, Maneiro, Ra Morena, Paz (Anzorena).

Nacional: Rodriguez, Perlaza, Perez, Zaldum Escalante, Barahona, Granda, Villafuerte, Corre Ron, Guerrero (Vega).

March 28

PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Ramos)
NACIONAL (Uruguay) (1) 1 (Ocampo)

Peñarol: Fossati, Morales (Diogo), Olivera (sent Marcenaro, Zoryez, J. Rodriguez (Salarlegui), Una Maneiro, Ramos, Morena, Paz.

Nacional: R. Rodriguez, Moller, Moreira, Machado Leon, De La Peña, Agresta, Marchetti (Cellava), B Victorino (Mamelli), Ocampo.

April 1

TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) (0) 2 (Burb pen., Guevara)
NACIONAL (Ecuador) (2) 2 (Ron 2)

April 5

TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) (0) 0
PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Paz)

Tecnico Universitario: Duarte, Erazo, Russo, Gueva Paredes, Burbano, W. Parraga, Gimenez, Agui Estupiñan, R. Parraga.

Peñarol: Fossati, Diogo, Caceres, Marcenaro, Zory Unanue, Saralegui, Maneiro, Ramos, Morena, Paz.

NACIONAL (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Ron)
NACIONAL (Uruguay) (0) 0

Nacional (E): Rodriguez, Veliz (Cajas), Zaldumb Perez, Perlaza, Granda, C. Ron (Vega), Villafuerte (s off), Guerrero, V. Ron, Barahona.

Nacional (Uy): Rodriguez, Moller, De Leon (Rub Moreira, Agresta, Machado, Bica (Cellava), De La Pe Victorino (sent off), Marchetti, Ocampo.

April 8

NACIONAL (Ecuador) 0
PENAROL (Uruguay) (0) 2 (Zoryez, Paz)

Nacional: Rodriguez, Perlaza, Perez, Zaldumb Escalante, Granda, C. Ron (Vega), Barahona (Caj Guerrero, V. Ron, Correa.

Peñarol: Fossati, Diogo, Caceres, Marcenaro, Zory Saralegui, Unanue, Maneiro, Ramos (Anzoren Dickman (Farai), Paz.

TECNICO UNIVERSITARIO (Ecuador) (0) 1 (Estupiña
NACIONAL (Uruguay) (0) 1 (Moreira)

Group 5 — final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
PEÑAROL (Uruguay)	6	4	2	0	10	2	
Nacional (Uruguay)	6	2	3	1	7	3	
Nacional (Ecuador)	6	2	2	2	6	10	
Tecnico Univer. (Ecuador)	6	0	2	4	4	13	

(The five group winners qualify for semi-final round w holders Boca Juniors of Argentina).

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

Peru 1 Uruguay 2 (April 6)

PAN-AMERICAN GAMES qualifying groups

(April 5—21)

North American group: 1. Bermuda 5 pts. 2. Uni States, 3 (better goal average). 3. Canada 3. 4. Mexic (US 2, Mexico 1; Bermuda 3, Canada 0; Bermude Mexico 2; US 0 Canada 0; Canada 3, Mexico 2; Berm 1, US 0).

Central American group: 1. Cuba. 2. Dominic Republic. 3. Dutch West Indies — Bermuda, US, Cu and Dominican Republic qualified.

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS

Universidad Catolica de Quito (Ecuador) Universitario (Peru) 1 (Mar. 29); The Strongest (Bolivia) nza Lima (Peru) 1 (Apr. 16).

GOODBYE BERTI!

by Arthur Rotmil

THEY CAME from far and near, the distinguished guests, officials, managers, invited players of world-wide repute and of course 36,500 fans who packed the Bökelberg ground to capacity. And all to pay tribute in a testimonial match Borussia Mönchengladbach v. the national side, to one of Germany's most famous footballers, Hans-Hubert "Berti" Vogts, at 32 retiring from active duty to become coach to the newly created 'Under-21-team'.

The popular blond figure, only 5ft 6in tall, as a defender a symbol of total commitment on the field, impeccable in manner and just as respected off the pitch, is already assured of a permanent place in German football's hall of fame. He has won 96 caps for his country, a World Cup winner's medal, two UEFA-Cup winner's mementoes, four West German League championship plaques, once for the Cup, in 1971 "Footballer of the Year", played altogether 418 Bundesliga games in which he scored 33 goals.

Vogts was born on December 30, 1946 in Büttgen. By profession a tool maker and recently a qualified football coach. Is still unmarried, though remained for years with the same girl friend, Monika Müller. Played only for the local club VfR Büttgen and since 1965 for Borussia Mönchengladbach. He played in his first international on May 3, 1967 against Yugoslavia, in Belgrade — his last on June 21, 1978 v. Austria in the World Cup in Argentina. Scored only once for the national team (v. Malta, in a 8-0 win), but of course, his main job was to defend. In addition, he represented the national junior team three times and also the youth side.

Berti Vogts was known as a "terrier" for his fierce tackling and whenever he played the crowds appreciated his wholehearted efforts throughout the 90 minutes. When the former national team manager Helmut Schön gave him the task of marking the great Johan Cruyff in the World Cup final (1974), Berti did the job so well, that the West German victory was in no small measure due to his performance in shutting out the opposition's most dangerous player.

Now Schön says: "Berti Vogts was not a creative player, but an outstanding performer whose attitude, determination and fighting spirit roused the others around him."

Complete

Cologne's and formerly Borussia Mönchengladbach's chief coach Hennes Weisweiler adds: "He was a model professional. Although Berti did not have as much talent as others, he managed to rise to world class status through sheer hard work, will to succeed and complete commitment."

Incredibly, his last year as an active player was ruined by a terrible injury just before the season has properly started. In a cup match Berti suffered a double fracture of the leg and badly torn ligaments. But he persevered and staged a marvellous comeback in April, helping his club to win the UEFA Cup and to stave off relegation. . . .

At the beginning of his illustrious career he recalls just a pair of football boots, prepared by his father who was a shoemaker. But at the age of 14 Berti lost both his parents in quick succession. He then learned to go through life independently and that's how he learned the trade of a tool maker. But his soccer talent was not long in blossoming in the ranks of VfR Büttgen; at the age of 19 he was spotted and signed up by Borussia.

Two men then took over the role of father in his life — both had a profound influence on his career: Hennes Weisweiler, of whom Berti says: "A tough professional, who raised me in the same mould," and Helmut Schön — "He taught me always to look for the positive side in every man."

"Both these men formed my character after I lost my mother and father," explains Berti. His fans were always loyal to him, though he did have to put up once or twice with whistles and booing when off form. "But I didn't think about it any more — once the final whistle (the referee's!) sounded, the match was over as far as I was concerned."

If he hates anybody then it's those people who lie to him. And he is angry with those who criticise and abuse him for declaring his sympathy for one political party. "I'd like to sit down with these people and discuss the subject," says Berti. The biggest disappointment in football? "Undoubtedly that own goal which I 'scored' for Austria in the last World Cup."

His testimonial was financially a success, although from the sporting angle rather a disappointment. The national team, who opposed his Borussia, did not exert themselves very much. Both sides made a total of ten (!) substitutions, which affected the flow of the game. Oh, yes, Borussia, for whom Kevin Keegan and the former Gladbacher favourite, the Dane Henning Jensen guested, beat the national team by 6-2! And the highlight: when Berti himself converted a penalty against his former national team mate Sepp Maier. There was just one shock for the host: Mönchengladbach's town council, who own the Bökelberg stadium, asked Vogts to pay for renting the ground. This was estimated at £3,000. . . .

What now Berti Vogts? Will he get married to Monika and settle down with a family? Berti laughs: "I don't know how my new job with the national junior team will work out. It could be tougher even than playing regularly. But I am ready for the challenge. I also may have other problems on my plate, like for instance having to pay my motoring fines. Up till now, whenever I was caught by a traffic 'cop', rather than issuing me with a parking or speeding ticket, he would ask for my autograph — this may change in the future. . . ."

'Not a creative player but an outstanding performer whose attitude roused others around him'

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

A GREAT time for England!

Apart from Nottingham Forest's Champions' Cup success at club level, the weeks of May and June brought plenty of good news for national team manager Ron Greenwood.

First England won the British championship, then virtually assured their place in next year's European championship finals, thanks to a well-paced 3-0 win over Bulgaria in Sofia.

Not only that, but England Youth finished third in the annual UEFA tournament.

The other matter of note was the European tour of Argentina. With Diego Maradona revealing himself as a superstar of tomorrow, they more than lived up to their world champions billing as unbeaten displays in Switzerland (against Holland), Italy, the Republic of Ireland and Scotland.

With Daniel Passarella as solid as ever at the back and plenty of younger players challenging for key roles in midfield and attack they earned the accolade from Italian manager Enzo Bearzot of "a team who will do very well when it comes to defending the World Cup in three years' time."

MAY 13

Limassol — European championship group 3
Cyprus 1 (Kalafas 31)
Rumania 1 (Ankustia 30)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Pennacov (Bulg).

An excellent result for Spain as the Rumanians failed lamentably to cope with the enthusiastic Cypriots. They seemed well on their way when Barbulescu laid on Ankustia's goal after half an hour. But after Sotiris Kalafas scored a rare international goal to add to his 20 in the league, Rumanian morale collapsed.

Cyprus did most of the rest of the attacking and might well have had a second goal if Rumanian skipper Stefanescu hadn't caught hold of substitute Fivos's shirt on the edge of the penalty area. The free kick was awarded just outside the box and Rumania managed to survive.

Cyprus: Panziaras — Pelikis, Kolothen, Stefanos, Panziaras II — Papadopoulos, Mavrodiagregori, Kalafas — Antoniu, Kissos, Irghi (Fivos 46).

Rumania: Andrey — Zamfir, Kiseu, Stefanescu, Ivan — Ankustia, Doru, Iovanescu — Radu, Barbulescu, Stan.

MAY 19

Belfast — Home Internationals
N. Ireland 0
England 2 (Watson 9, Coppell 16)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Foote (Scot).

Easy for England, even though club calls meant the absences of Kevin Keegan and the Nottingham Forest contingent. Altering their tactics from the accepted Greenwood pattern to 4-3-3, they had little difficulty maintaining the 52-year unbeaten record at Windsor Park.

With Ray Wilkins, Tony Currie and Peter Barnes all given the chance to show off to prospective buyers they also improved Greenwood's managerial record to one defeat in 14 matches.

However while Steve Coppell had an excellent game, as did Liverpool's Terry McDermott in midfield, poor Barnes had a stinker, which culminated in a terrible miss in the 66th minute.

Not that it mattered so much by then. In the opening minutes both Bryan Hamilton and Vic Moreland went close for the Irish and Wilkins had to make a despairing saving tackle on Sammy McIlroy. But after Sammy Nelson fouled Barnes, Coppell clipped in the free kick and Dave Watson headed in No. 1. Coppell himself scored the second after a fine four-man move in which the ball was slipped sweetly from McDermott, to Latchford, to Wilkins, and the Manchester United forward added the finishing touch.

Chris Nicholl later had to clear off the line from Latchford, but though in the second half McIlroy forced one good save from Ray Clemence, the Irish were never serious contenders for a point.

N. Ireland: Jennings — Rice, J. Nicholl, C. Nicholl, Nelson — Hamilton, McIlroy, Moreland (McGrath 57) — Armstrong, Caskey, Cochrane (Spence 68).

England: Clemence — Neal, Thompson, Watson, Mills — Wilkins, McDermott, Currie — Coppell, Latchford, Barnes.

Cardiff — Home Internationals
Wales 3 (Toshack 31, 39 and 75)
Scotland 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,371. **Ref:** Partridge (Engl).

Injuries and the late season club calls of Nottingham Forest and Glasgow Rangers meant problems for Scotland manager Jock Stein. But even he must have been disappointed at the weak and careless performance his men served up.

In defence they were all at sea, with Alan Hansen displaying none of his Liverpool form, while Graeme Souness was in much the same boat in midfield. Swansea player-manger John Toshack, back for his 36th cap, had a field day.

He and club attacking partners Curtis and James had scored 62 goals between them in taking Swansea out of the Third Division, and they caused most of the trouble.

A warning shot arrived in the 25th minute when Alan Rough had to reach to tip away a Toshack volley, but two minutes later John Mahoney laid on the centre forward's first after an error by Hansen.

Four minutes later and it was Mahoney and Toshack again. This time Mahoney's throw was passed down the row by Phillips, Flynn and Curtis and though Rough blocked Toshack's first shot it only returned for the one-time Liverpool striker to accept the second chance.

In the second half Scotland had their best opportunity when John Wark missed an open goal, but for Wales Robbie James hit the bar before Toshack completed his hat-trick, his shot from Curtis's cross going through Rough's hands.

Wales: Davies — Stevenson, Dwyer, Phillips, Jones — Flynn, Yorath (Nicholas 89), Mahoney — Curtis, Toshack, James.

Scotland: Rough — Burley, Hegarty, Hansen, F. Grey — Wark, Hartford, Souness — Wallace (Jordan 55), Dalglish, Graham.

Dave Watson scores for England against Wales.

Sofia — EC group 1
Bulgaria 1 (Tzvetkov 80)
Rep. Ireland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Bucek (Aus).

It wasn't the Republic's day. Steve Heighway w denied what appeared a clear penalty and in the 52 minute Spurs' defender Jimmy Holmes suffered double leg fracture in a collision with Iliev. All thin considered, the Bulgarians let them off comparativ lightly.

Their dominance emphasised by the 15-0 corn count, the winning goal was a gorgeous late swerv from Tzvetkov which beat even the in-form Gerry Peyt in goal. Liam Brady went close to an equaliser with a l drive minutes later, but the Bulgarians were worth th win.

Bulgaria: Filipov — Grancharov, Mkov, Iliev, Vassil — Zdravkov, Borissov, Panov — Voinov, Jeliazko Tzvetkov.

Rep. Ireland: Peyton — Grealy, O'Leary, Mart Holmes (Mulligan 95) — Daly, Giles, Brady — Wal (McGee), Givens, Heighway.

Tbilisi — EC group 6
Russia 2 (Chesnokov 23, Shengelia 75)
Hungary 2 (Tatar 33, Pusztai 63)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** McGinley (Scot).

Even the Hungarians were surprised to come aw with a point — and a point well deserved. Russi manager Nikita Simonian's bid for a positive displ from his own men misfired badly, allowing t Hungarians to launch effective moves of their own.

Russia clearly missed injured Kiev midfield Ilessonov even though the league's top scorer, Y Chesnokov, gave them an early lead. The Hungarie appeared the fitter team, with Andras Torocsik in fi form up front. Yet such is the perverse nature Hungarian football that they conceded the seco equaliser some three minutes after the expulsion Soviet defender Alexander Bubnov.

Russia: Gontar — Bereznhoi, Azhdem, Bubno Makhovikov — Daraselia, Machaidze, Kondze (Kipia 70) — Chesnokov (Udugkov 87), Shengelia, Blokhin.

Hungary: Gujdar — Torocsik (Martos 28), Kocsis, Bali J. Toth (Rab 55) — Tatar, Nyilasi, Zombori — Magya Pusztai, Tomecsk.

MAY 22

Berne — FIFA 75th birthday match
Holland 0 Argentina 0
Att: 28,000. **Ref:** Barreto (Uruguay). *Argentina won 5 on pens.*

FIFA's celebrations brought a fine game played at a entertaining pace and also meant the stunni European debut of Argentina wonderboy Dieg Maradona. On the Dutch side skipper Rudi Krol's 65 cap brought him a national record in this World Cu Final repeat.

Argentina began with nine of their Buenos Aire winners — Galvan and the injured Kempes were th absentees — while Holland retained only five.

For once neither of the Van der Kerkhof brother started the game, though Rene appeared as substitu but it was interesting to see Simon Tahamata, th Moluccan from Ajax, making his international debut.

Argentina could have had the game won before came to penalties. In the 80th minute Maradona wa clearly brought down in the penalty box after once agai eluding his marker, Johan Neeskens, but Uruguaya referee Ramon Barretto — bending over too f backwards in his attempts to appear unbiased toward fellow South Americans — looked the other way.

At the climax to the penalty series for the right to th prize chunk of alpine crystal, Argentina deservedly wo when Ubaldo Fillol saved from Alkmaar midfielder Ja W. Peters.

How Johnny Rep must then have regretted his ba miss in the 35th minute when he had all the goal to ai at, but put his header wide.

Holland: Doesburg — Jansen (Metgod 82), Kro Stevens, Hovenkamp — Poortvliet, J. W. Peters Neeskens — Rep, Kist (J. H. Peters 57), Tahamata (Ren Van der Kerkhof 65).

Argentina: Fillol — Olguin, Villaverde, Passarell Tarantini — Ardiles, Gallego, Maradona — Berton (Houseman 66), Luque (Barbas 61), Ortiz.

Berne — EC group 4
Switzerland 2 (Herbert Hermann 27, Zappa 53)
Iceland 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Victor (Lux).

This match, played as a curtain-raiser to Holland Argentina, saw the Swiss, under new boss Leon Walker pick up their first points in the group. Both goals cam from new men and both were a little lucky. Herber Hermann's shot from Botteron's pass skidded through the hands of goalkeeper Thorsteinn Olafsson, whil Gianpietro Zappa's 25-yard drive took a deflection.

Iceland wasted their only chance in the 88th. Asgei Sigurvinsson launched a beautiful through pass, bu 17-year-old Arnor Gudjohnsen allowed goalkeepe Eichenberger to force him into a hasty shot off target.

Eichenberger played only because first-choice Roge Berbig was hurt in the warm-up.

Switzerland: Eichenberger — Brechbuehl, Lued Zappa, Heinz Hermann — Maissen, Barberis, Weriti — Ponte, Botteron, Herbert Hermann.

Iceland: Olafsson — Gudlaugsson, J. Edvaldsson (Gudmundsson 80), Jan Petursson, Sveinsson — A. Edvaldsson, Gunsson, Thorbjornsson, Sigurvinsson — Gudjohnsen, P. Petursson.

John Toshack collects the second of his three goals for Wales against Scotland.

Glasgow — Home Internationals
Scotland 1 (Graham 75)
N. Ireland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 28,529. **Ref:** Thomas (Wales).

Leeds forward Arthur Graham was the man of the match. He forced Pat Jennings to sharp stops in the fifth and sixth minutes, was blocked on another occasion only by a Pat Rice tackle in extremis, stretched Jennings again in the 49th minute and finally got the only goal after the goalkeeper parried a drive from Kenny Dalglish.

Graham even had an 82th-minute "goal" disallowed because of hands by Joe Jordan.

The Irish rarely tested new Scotland goalkeeper George Wood, from Everton. Derek Spence did hit the bar once and Allan Hunter the post, but then the Scots could claim that Jimmy Nicholl diverted a Gordon McQueen shot against the Irish woodwork too.

Scotland: Wood — Burley, Hegarty, McQueen, F. Gray — Wark (Narey 46), Souness, Hartford — Dalglish, Jordan, Graham (McGarvey 89).

N. Ireland: Jennings — Rice, J. Nicholl, Hunter, Nelson — Hamilton, Moreland, McIlroy — Sloan, Spence, Armstrong.

Dublin
Rep. Ireland 1 (Ryan 26)
West Germany 3 (Rummenigge 28, Kelsch 80, D. Hoeness 89)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng).

An entertaining game for the fans, even if the West Germans did take over in the second half despite a plethora of substitutes.

Manager Jupp Derwall was using a short break to try against the Irish and then Iceland some younger players, and in Dublin he provided first caps for Dieter Hoeness — brother of Uli — Bernd Förster — brother of Karl-Heinz — as well as Köln's Schuster and substitutes Caspar Memering and Jimmy Hartwig from Hamburg.

The Irish had injury problems with which to contend. Steve Heighway had to pull out shortly before the kick-off, and Don Givens limped off in the 16th minute.

Nevertheless they took the play to the former world champions in the opening stages and were rewarded with Gerry Ryan's overhead kick for a spectacular opening goal.

The lead didn't last. The Germans had already seen Rummenigge (1st minute) and Hoeness (21st) go close, and it was Rummenigge who equalised just two minutes after Ryan's goal, after Klaus Allofs had tricked his way to the byline.

Just before the interval Gerry Peyton saved well from Hansi Muller and the Germans maintained their pressure throughout the second half. Walter Kelsch had a shot cleared off the line by Paddy Mulligan in the 50th minute, and it wasn't until the 70th that half-time substitute Burdenski in goal had a save to make.

Finally the pressure paid off. Mick Martin slipped up in midfield and Kelsch took advantage to go through and score, then Hoeness wrapped it up in the last minute. The Irish couldn't complain.

Rep. Ireland: Peyton — Gregg, Martin, O'Leary, Mulligan — Grealish, Giles, Brady — Stapleton (Walsh 60), Givens (O'Callaghan 16), Ryan.

W. Germany: Maier (Burdenski 46) — Kaltz, Cullman, K-H. Förster, B. Förster — H. Zimmermann (Hartwig 70), Schuster, H. Muller (Kelsch 46) — Rummenigge (Memering 70), D. Hoeness, K. Allofs.

MAY 23

Wembley — Home Internationals
England 0
Wales 0
Att: 79,220. **Ref:** Moffatt (N. Ire).

A poor game with only the brilliance of England's 20-year-old left back, Kenny Sansom, to ease the gloom. Sharp and effective both in attack and defence he by far overshadowed the other long-awaited newcomer, West Bromwich's black winger Laurie Cunningham.

Wales battled away as ever, with Flynn, Yorath and Mahoney making it tough for England in midfield and, with Kevin Keegan looking a little tired up front and Bob Latchford struggling, there were few openings.

In the 29th minute McDermott rattled a post, and then Cunningham was just over. But at the other end Robbie James should have done better than shoot too high in the 66th minute when the England defence was at sixes and sevens.

Curtis and Toshack forced good saves from Manchester City goalkeeper Joe Corrigan before England came close to the winner — Trevor Cherry's shot being scraped off the line in the last minute by Mahoney.

England: Corrigan — Cherry, Watson, Hughes, Sansom — Currie (Brooking 75), Wilkins, McDermott — Keegan, Latchford (Coppell 68), Cunningham.

Wales: Davies — Stevenson, Dwyer, Phillips, Jones — Flynn, Mahoney, Yorath — James, Toshack (Harris 80), Curtis.

Belfast — Home Internationals
N. Ireland 1 (Spence)
Wales 1 (James 62)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 6,500. **Ref:** Hornewood (Eng).

Wales never recovered from the shock of conceding a goal to Spence after just 16 seconds — their first of the home internationals. As the game went on it seemed just a matter of time before the Irish made it two. Spence and Chris Nicholl both had efforts foiled by the woodwork before Robbie James surprised everyone — above all Pat Jennings — with a 20-yard drive for the equaliser.

James could have had the winner, but this time the woodwork came to Jenning's aid while before the end poor Spence had yet another effort — a header this time — bounce off the bar.

N. Ireland: Jennings — Rice, Chris Nicholl, Hunter, Nelson — Hamilton, McIlroy, McCreery (Sloan 46), J. Nicholl — Spence, Armstrong.

Wales: Davies — Stevenson, Dwyer, Phillips, Jones — Flynn, Yorath, Mahoney (Nicholas 76) — Curtis, Toshack, James.

MAY 26

Wembley — Home Internationals
England 3 (Barnes 44, Coppell 62, Keegan 69)
Scotland 1 (Wark 16)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 100,000. **Ref:** Garrido (Portugal).

Wembley was about as Scottish as Hampden for the battle of the Auld Enemies. Home fans stayed away to avoid the notorious visiting hordes, who must have thought their trek well worthwhile when, after Kenny Dalglish and Graeme Souness had gone close, John Wark stabbed them into the lead.

Joe Jordan's run, Arthur Graham's deceptive cross and Dalglish's touch back made the goal and Scotland looked well in control in a bruising old game. However in the time added on at the end of the first half because of a Scottish fan's drunken incursion onto the pitch, England equalised.

Peter Barnes's shot appeared to carry little weight from the edge of the box, but somehow it crept through a host of defenders and surprised goalkeeper Wood.

That was the turning point. After the break England looked a new team, with Kevin Keegan staying further forward and Trevor Brooking shrugging off his recent injury problems. Wood dropped a shot from Ray Wilkins and Steve Coppell made it 2-1, then a beautiful one-two between Keegan and Brooking found Hamburg's England captain perfectly timing his run to ensure victory.

England: Clemence — Neal, Thompson, Watson, Mills — Wilkins, Brooking — Coppell, Keegan, Latchford, Barnes.

Scotland: Wood — Burley, McQueen, Hegarty, F. Gray — Wark, Souness, Hartford — Dalglish, Jordan, Graham.

Final home internationals table:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
Wales	3	1	2	0	4	1	4
Scotland	2	1	0	2	2	6	2
N. Ireland	3	0	1	2	1	4	1

Rome
Italy 2 (Causio 25, Rossi 53)
Argentina 2 (Valencia 6, Passarella 54 pen)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 59,834. **Ref:** Perom (Port).

Bad temper spoiled the last half hour, with even the normally placid Dino Zoff and Roberto Bettega in the thick of it, but up to then the match had been a delight.

Argentina, playing at a slower tempo than during the World Cup, showed plenty of skill to match their steel core, and Maradona was once more the centre of their attack.

A Daniel Valencia dipper put the world champions ahead but Franco Causio equalised with only his fourth goal in 46 internationals. Paolo Rossi threw off the concern for his future wanderings after his club's relegation by converting Giancarlo Antognoni's pass for the Italian second, but the eminently reliable Daniel Passarella squared from the spot.

Italy: Zoff — Gentile, Scirea, Collovati, Cabrini — Tardelli, Oriali, Antognoni — Causio, Rossi, Bettega.

Argentina: Fillol — Olguin, Villaverde, Passarella, Tarantini — Barbas (Oviedo 68), Gallego, Maradona — Houseman, Luque, Valencia.

Reykjavik
Iceland 1 (A. Edvaldsson 83)
West Germany 3 (Kelsch 32, D. Hoeness 33 and 67)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** Hope (Scot).

Easy for the Germans in the end, though the defence took a while to settle and the Icelanders could have gained a goal start. Once more German manager Jupp Derwall experimented with Tomorrow's Men.

Iceland: Olafsson — Gudleugsson, J. Edvaldsson, J. Petursson, Hardusson (Gudmundsson 72) — Thorbjorsson, Geirsson, Albertsson (Ottosson 80) — A. Edvaldsson, Ormslev (Halldorsson 80), Sveinsson.

W. Germany: Maier (Schumacher 46) — Konopka, Cullmann, K-H. Förster (Kaltz 60), B. Förster — Groh, Zimmermann (Hartwig 46), Schuster, Memering — Kelsch, D. Hoeness.

MAY 29

Dublin
Rep. Ireland 0
Argentina 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** Valentine (Scot).

A game of two halves. In the first the eager Irish had it all their own way, and Argentina had both Tarantini and Trossero booked as they held back the surge. The match which was Johnny Giles's farewell as a player, though not of course as manager, was for the benefit of Unicef and the Irish gifted away the chance to go ahead.

Mick Walsh, who was off target in the 20th minute and, in the second half, with the introduction of substitute Diego Maradona, Argentina reversed the game's course.

Barbas and Reinaldi were both denied goals by the woodwork as Irish general Liam Brady was overshadowed by Maradona.

Rep. Ireland: Peyton — Gregg, Martin, O'Leary, Mulligan — Giles, Brady, Grealish — Walsh, Stapleton, Givens (McGee).

Argentina: Fillol — Olguin, Villaverde, Trossero, Tarantini (Gallego 30) — Barbas, Oviedo, Valencia — Perotti (Maradona 46), Reinaldi (Cules 46), Housemen.

JUNE 1

E. Berlin
East Germany 1 (Streich 65)
Rumania 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000.

A boring game on a scorching day, which provided little entertainment for a crowd mainly drawn from an international teenagers' conference. Cihala hit the post for Rumania on the hour and it was this rare moment of aggression which prompted the East Germans into producing Joachim Streich's overhead kick and goal.

JUNE 2

Valetta — EC group 7
Malta 0
Wales 2 (Nicholas 15, Flynn 50)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** Lagoyannis (Gr).

An awful pitch, the 90 degree heat and early pressure by the Maltese couldn't deflect Wales from their task of picking up both points where rivals West Germany could take only one.

Dai Davies made some early saves, but once Peter Nicholas had volleyed home the Welsh first, the outcome wasn't in doubt. Nicholas, playing because skipper Terry Yorath was suffering from a throat infection, scored in style after John Toshack headed down a Brian Flynn centre.

And it was Flynn who grabbed the second, from outside the box, after John Mahoney had nodded down a Carl Harris cross. It could have been three, but Robbie James, brought down in a stranglehold by goalkeeper Sciberras, wasted both the penalty kick and the rebound in the 69th.

Malta: Sciberras — Buckingham, E. Farrugia, Holland, Buttigieg — M. Farrugia, Magro, J. Xuereb — Spiteri Gonzi (Fahri), R. Xuereb, G. Xuereb.

Wales: Davies — Stevenson, Phillips, Jones — Harris (Thomas), Nicholas, Flynn, Mahoney — Curtis, Toshack, James.

Hampden
Scotland 1 (Graham 84)
Argentina 3 (Luque 31, 61, Maradona 70)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 61,918. **Ref:** Partridge (Eng).

Maradona again. He mesmerised the Scots, it was his brilliant slalom which gave Leopold Luque the chance to sidestep Rough and score the first; and it was Maradona

● *Continued overleaf*

● Continued from previous page

who was twice so close to increasing that lead before the interval. First he saw a shot cleared off the line by George Burley, then another bid to score hit the post.

He was, for once, not involved when Barbas and Dutes laid on Luque's second, but it was Maradona who put the finishing touch to Argentina's display with a sleight-of-foot goal from an angle on the right. Substitute goalkeeper George Wood must have gone cross-eyed trying to follow the jinking feet and the rapid touch of the ball before a left-foot shot clipped inside him.

Arthur Graham scored a late goal for the Scots, who again were far from full strength, but that couldn't stop the jeers of their own fans.

Scotland: Rough (Wood 46) — Burley, Hansen, Hegarty, Munro — Nicholl, Wark, Hartford (F. Gray 70) — McGarvey, Dalglish, Graham.

Argentina: Fillol — Olguin, Villavarde (Trossero 20), Passarella, Tarantini — Barbas, Gallego, Valencia — Houseman (Dutes 56), Luque, Maradona.

JUNE 6

Copenhagen — EC group 1
Denmark 4 Elkjaer 30, 33, 83, Simonsen 63)
Northern Ireland 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 16,800. **Ref:** Frickel (WG).

Both managers — Kurt Nielsen and Danny Blanchflower — agreed afterwards that the Danes could have scored far more than four in the game which began Nielsen's last month in charge.

Preben Elkjaer, back from Belgian club Lokeren for the night, was the hero. He scored a hat-trick — converting crosses from Nornegard, Olsen and Arnesen — and also laid on Allan Simonsen's goal.

Simonsen was close to a second goal of his own in the 82nd minute, while the nearest Northern Ireland came was in the 48th minute when goalkeeper Kjaer needed two attempts to hold onto a shot from Spence.

Denmark: Kjaer — Holgaard, Ziegler, Busk, Andersen — Olsen, Arnesen, Lerby — Nornegard, Simonsen, Elkjaer.

N. Ireland: Jennings — Rice, J. Nicholl, Hunter, Nelson — O'Neill (Dixon 66), McCreery, Hamilton, McIlroy, Spence, Armstrong (Caskey 68).

Sofia — EC group 1
Bulgaria 0
England 3 (Keegan 33, Watson 53, Barnes 54)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 47,500. **Ref:** Dörflinger (Swz).

In the end England found it comfortably easy, taking the two points which — as Bulgarian manager Tzvetan Ilichev admitted — virtually guarantee their place in Italy in next summer's European championship finals.

Borissov and Tzvetkov set the English defence some early problems and Ray Clemence pushed a Borissov header against a post. But Dave Watson headed against the bar at the other end, and an inch-perfect Trevor Brooking pass gave Kevin Keegan England's first.

Brooking was the creator of No 2, with a corner which Watson headed in, and Barnes headed the third from a cross by Steve Coppell. Barnes was later substituted by Ron Greenwood for his own protection, as it were, after two unpleasant incidents with Grancharov. But it wasn't so much his Forest substitute, Tony Woodcock, but the other Trevor Francis, who kept the match alight in the closing stages.

His pace stretched the Bulgarians after he appeared for Latchford — who had himself seen a "goal" disallowed for offside — and in the last minute Francis could have had a penalty when brought down by goalkeeper Filipov.

Instead referee Dörflinger preferred to blow the final whistle.

Bulgaria: Filipov — Grancharov, Iliev, Ivkov, G. Bonev — Zdravkov (Gochev 60), Borissov, Panov — Velinov (Barzov 46), Jeliazkov, Tzvetkov.

England: Clemence — Neal, Thompson, Watson, Mills — Wilkins, Brooking — Coppell, Keegan, Latchford (Francis 66), Barnes (Woodcock 79).

OLYMPIC qual:— Group 1 — May 5 (Prague): Czechoslovakia 4 (Licka 2, Rott, Janecka), Bulgaria 0. — May 30 (Diogyori): Hungary 3 (Fekete, Borostyan, Kiss), Rumania 0. **Group 4** — May 30 (Bergen): Norway 2 (Hammer, Larsen pen), Ireland 1 (Foyle).

OTHER MATCHES:— May 10 (Cassino): Italy mil. 2 (Ambu 66, 73 pen), France m.8. 3 (Genghini 16, Pollanok 18, Piette 54). — (Valetta): Malta 1 (Gonzi 11), Italy amateur 1 (Dell'Amico 40). **May 17** (Schwedt): E. Germany Olym. 4, Denmark 0. — (Moenchengladbach — Vogts testimonial): Borussia Mg 6 (Koppel 15, 79 pen, Liesen 20, Vogts 27 pen, Wohlers 44, Kulik 67), West Germany 2 (Bonhof 13, 85). **May 20** (Lyss): Switzerland 4 (Botteron 16, Heinz Hermann 75, Meissen 76, Tanner 77), Young Boys Berne 0.

UEFA YOUTH TOURNAMENT
(Austria)

Yugoslavia won the 32nd Tournament, beating Bulgaria 1-0 in the final with a goal created for substitute Zistanowski by Merdanovic. The Bulgarians had their chances. Kurdov, their centre forward, was the worst culprit. In the 31st minute he hit the bar, and in the 65th missed with only goalkeeper Pudar to beat.

England took third place, beating France 4-3 on penalties after a 0-0 draw. It was an ironic way for England to win since it was a late spot kick blunder which cost them a semi-final equaliser against Bulgaria.

Group A: France 5, Belgium 1 — Holland 2, Switzerland 1 — France 1, Switzerland 1 — Belgium 2, Holland 1 — France 2, Holland 1 — Belgium 4, Switzerland 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	2	1	0	9	4	5
Belgium	3	2	0	1	7	7	4
Holland	3	1	0	2	5	6	2
Switzerland	3	0	1	2	3	7	1

Group B: W. Germany 6, Malta 0 — England 3, Czechoslovakia 0 — England 3, Malta 0 — Czech. 2, W. Germany 0 — England 3, W. Germany 0 — Czech. 6, Malta 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	3	0	0	8	0	6
Czech.	3	2	0	1	8	3	4
W. Germany	3	1	0	2	5	4	2
Malta	3	0	0	3	0	14	0

Group C: Austria 2, Norway 0 — Yugoslavia 2, Hungary 0 — Yugoslavia 2, Austria 1 — Hungary 2, Norway 1 — Yugoslavia 3, Norway 1 — Hungary 3, Austria 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	3	3	0	0	7	2	6
Hungary	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Austria	3	1	0	2	3	5	2
Norway	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

Group D: Scotland 3, Poland 2 — Bulgaria 1, Denmark 0 — Denmark 2, Poland 1 — Bulgaria 2, Scotland 0 — Bulgaria 4, Poland 1 — Scotland 2, Denmark 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	3	3	0	0	7	1	6
Scotland	3	2	0	1	5	5	4
Denmark	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Poland	3	0	0	3	8	4	0

Semi-finals: Yugoslavia 3, France 0 — Bulgaria 1, England 0. Third place: England 0, France 0 (4-3 pens). Final (Vienna): Yugoslavia 1, Bulgaria 0.

Yugoslavia: Pudar — Capic, Djunowski, Lazic, Dzavic — Gulcu, Rockulovic, Bazdarevic — Bogdanovic (Zistanowski 48), Cakalic (Marinkovic 70), Merdanovic.

Bulgaria: Denev — Davikov, Georgiev, Blangev, Grekov — Sadakov, Naidenov (Ostrov 60), Beninski — Dragolov (Ivanov 60), Kerlov, Eranosian.

LEAGUE TABLES (South and Central America)

ARGENTINA
Metropolitan First Division

Section A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newell's Old Boys	12	7	2	3	19	9	16
River Plate	12	6	4	2	20	14	16
Racing Club	12	5	4	3	23	15	14
Argentinos Juniors	12	6	2	4	22	21	14
Quilmes	12	4	5	3	12	12	13
Velez Sarsfield	12	5	2	5	18	18	12
Union de Santa Fe	12	4	4	4	15	15	12
Huracan	12	4	3	5	16	20	11
Gimnasia de La Plata	12	3	1	8	9	17	7
Platense	12	2	1	9	12	26	5

Section B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosario Central	12	8	3	1	26	8	19
Boca Juniors	12	7	2	3	24	14	16
Independiente	12	7	1	4	24	17	15
Estudiantes de La Plata	12	6	3	3	25	21	15
FC Oeste	12	5	4	3	14	18	14
Colon de Santa Fe	12	4	4	4	18	17	12
San Lorenzo	12	3	5	4	18	18	11
All Boys	12	3	3	6	13	19	9
Atlanta	12	0	5	7	8	17	5
Chacarita Juniors	12	1	2	9	7	28	4

(Top two of each section qualify for semi-finals)

URUGUAY
Championship of the Republic (final standings)

Section A: (14 games) 1. Peñarol 11 pts; 2. Fenix 10; 3. Sud America 9; 4. Bella Vista 8; 5. Wanderers 7; 6. Rentistas 6; 7. Trointa y Tres 4; 8. Cerro Largo 2. Section B: (14 games) 1. Danubio 10; 2. Cerro (on better results v. River, Nacional); 3. River Plate and Nacional 9; 5. Liverpool 8; 6. Defensor 6; 7. Solto 5; 8. Canelones 0. Final round: (top two of each section — 3 games) 1. Peñarol and Danubio 5 (to play off); 3. Fenix 2; 4. Cerro 0.

BRAZIL
Rio de Janeiro Championship
(Carioca League) final standings

Second round	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Flamengo	9	6	3	0	26	8	15
Fluminense	9	5	3	1	20	10	13
Vasco da Gama	9	5	3	1	15	6	13
Botafogo	9	4	3	2	22	9	11
Americano	9	2	4	3	12	12	8
America	9	2	4	3	12	12	8
Volta Redonda	9	3	1	5	9	10	7
Sao Cristovao	9	2	2	5	5	22	6
Goiteses	9	2	2	5	9	21	6
Fluminense (Friburgo)	9	0	1	8	1	23	1

PARAGUAY
First Division (after four games)

1. Sol de America 7 pts; 2. Olimpia 6; 3. Libertad and Guarani 5; 5. Sportivo Luqueno and Tembetery 4; 7. Rubio Nu and Cerro Porteño 3; 9. River Plate and Capitan Figari 1.

ECUADOR
First Division

Section A: 1. Deportivo Cuenca 8 games/13 pts; 2. Universidad Catolica 7/11; 3. Tecnico Universitario 6/9; 4. Liga Deportiva Universitaria Quito 6/8; 5. Barcelona 7/7; 6. Emelec, America, Deportivo Quito, Bonita Banana 8/5; 10. Nacional 8/4. Section B leaders: 1. Manta 8/13; 2. Liga Deportiva Universitaria de Cuenca 8/9.

COLOMBIA
Opening Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America Cali	19	10	6	3	20	11	26
Juniors Baranquilla	19	10	4	5	28	20	24
Caldas	19	9	6	4	25	16	24
Medellin	19	7	7	5	28	19	21
Deportivo Cali	18	8	4	5	24	21	21
Union Magdalena	19	7	6	6	22	20	20
Independiente Santa Fe	19	3	13	3	25	24	19
Quindio	18	6	6	6	20	16	18
Millonarios	17	7	3	7	27	25	17
Bucaramanga	18	5	6	7	19	22	16
Nacional	19	5	6	8	23	30	16
Perebra	19	5	5	9	24	27	15
Cucuta	19	4	6	9	16	29	14
Tolima	18	2	5	11	18	39	9

VENEZUELA — Copa Venezuela

Group A	P	W	D	L	F
Galicia	7	4	2	1	12
Italia	8	3	3	2	14
Portuguesa	7	3	2	2	8
Valencia	8	3	2	3	9
Miranda	8	3	0	5	6
Portugues	8	1	3	4	10

Group B	P	W	D	L	F
Lara	9	5	3	1	12
Zamora	9	4	3	2	15
Tachira	9	4	1	4	13
Universidad de Los Andes	9	2	5	2	18
Estudiantes	9	3	3	3	10
Falcon	9	1	1	7	6

(Group winners qualify for final)

PERU
National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F
Universitario	8	6	2	0	16
Juan Aurich	8	4	3	1	8
Alianza Lima	7	5	0	2	20
Sporting Cristal	8	2	6	0	13
Sport Boys	7	4	2	1	10
Leon de Huanuco	7	5	0	2	12
Coronel Bolognesi	8	4	2	2	12
Colegio Nac. Iquitos	8	3	2	3	8
Union Huaral	8	2	3	3	6
Atletico Chalaco	7	1	4	2	4
Juventud La Palma	8	2	2	4	6
Deportivo Junin	8	2	2	4	8
Melgar	8	1	3	5	5
Atletico Torino	8	0	4	4	3
Alfonso Ugarte	8	2	0	6	9
Deportivo Municipal	8	1	2	5	4

CHILE
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F
Colo Colo	5	5	0	0	21
O'Higgins	5	5	0	0	13
Coquimbo	5	4	1	0	10
Union Española	4	3	0	1	8
Green Cross	5	2	3	0	9
Cobreloa	5	2	2	1	11
Universidad de Chile	5	2	0	3	4
Palestino	4	2	1	1	9
Aviación	5	2	1	2	10
Concepción	5	2	1	2	7
Universidad Catolica	5	2	1	2	8
Lota-Schwager	5	2	1	2	5
Naval	5	1	1	3	9
Wanderers	5	1	1	3	8
Audax Italiano	5	1	0	4	5
Nubleense	5	1	0	4	5
Santiago Morning	5	0	1	4	1
Everton	5	0	0	5	6

*Bonus points gained in pre-season champion: Universidad de Chile 2, Colo Colo, Union Española, Cobreloa one each.

MEXICO
First Division

Group 1	P	W	D	L	F
Monterrey	35	12	12	11	46
America	35	14	7	14	57
Guadalajara	35	11	12	12	43
Atlante	35	8	11	15	47
Veracruz	35	6	8	21	28

Group 2	P	W	D	L	F
Univ. Autonoma de Mexico	35	17	9	9	74
Potosino	35	16	7	12	48
Tampico	35	10	12	13	55
Leon	35	11	6	18	44
Jalisco	35	8	11	16	47

Group 3	P	W	D	L	F
Cruz Azul	35	17	12	6	63
Toluca	35	16	7	10	57
Puebla	35	14	12	9	48
Univ. de Guadalajara	35	13	7	15	53
Curtidores	35	12	9	14	48

Group 4	P	W	D	L	F
Univ. de Nuevo Leon	35	17	13	5	54
Zacatepec	35	14	12	9	51
Univ. Autonoma de Guadalajara	35	12	14	9	51
Atletico Español	35	11	9	15	48
Naza	35	9	9	17	31

Zico

SPARWASSER FORCED TO QUIT

JURGEN SPARWASSER, the man whose goal took East Germany to famous victory over West Germany in the first round of the 1974 World Cup Finals, has been forced to retire by injury. Sparwasser, of Magdeburg, the East German Cup-winners, scored 131 goals in his league career and played 53 times for the national team.

LUXEMBOURG

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Boys	22	14	6	2	60	19	34
Progres Niederconen	22	13	6	1	61	25	34
Union	22	11	3	8	55	31	26
Avenir Beggen	22	7	10	5	34	26	24
Jeunesse Esch	22	9	6	7	35	34	24
Etzella Ettelbruck	22	6	6	8	43	48	22
Aris Bonneweg	22	7	6	9	24	46	20
Grevenmacher	22	6	7	9	23	33	19
Chiers Rodange	22	9	1	12	30	48	19
Rumelingen	22	5	8	9	22	26	18
Alliance Dudelingen	22	5	7	10	20	32	17
Young Boys Diekirch	22	3	2	17	20	67	8

TURKEY

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Trabzonspor	30	13	16	1	34	7	42
Galatasaray	30	17	7	6	47	17	41
Fenerbahce	30	15	8	7	40	22	38
Orduspor	30	13	8	9	31	27	34
Diyarbakir	30	13	6	11	26	31	32
Altay Izmir	30	10	11	9	37	29	31
Eskisehirspor	30	10	11	9	26	24	31
Zonguldakspor	30	11	7	12	28	24	29
Besiktas	30	10	9	11	33	32	29
Goztepe	30	9	10	11	30	40	28
Adanaspor	30	8	11	11	33	33	27
Bursaspor	30	7	13	10	25	33	27
Adanaspor	30	9	9	12	23	32	27
Boluspor	30	9	8	13	33	32	26
Samsun	30	6	8	16	18	37	20
Kirikhale	30	5	8	17	20	64	18

POLAND

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ruch Chorzow	30	16	7	7	44	27	39
Widzew Lodz	30	14	11	5	37	26	39
Stal Mielec	30	14	8	8	43	27	36
Szombierki Bytom	30	11	13	6	42	27	35
Odra Opole	30	14	6	10	42	28	34
Legia Warsaw	30	10	13	7	32	28	33
Lech Poznan	30	11	8	11	34	36	30
GKS Katowice	30	10	10	10	28	36	30
Zaglebie Sosnowiec	30	7	15	8	22	25	29
Slask Wroclaw	30	11	7	12	23	27	29
Arka	30	11	7	12	29	35	29
Wisla Krakow	30	9	8	13	42	43	26
LKS Lodz	30	9	8	13	30	38	26
Polonia	30	9	6	15	23	39	24
Pogon Szczecin	30	7	8	16	31	41	22
Gwardia Warsaw	30	5	9	16	22	41	19

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dukla Prague	30	18	5	7	65	24	41
Banik	30	16	9	5	44	22	41
Zbrojovka Brno	30	13	9	8	55	32	35
Bohemians	30	12	8	10	44	43	32
Sparta Prague	30	12	7	11	43	37	31
Inter	30	11	8	11	40	34	30
Slavia	30	12	5	13	40	45	29
Banska Bystrica	30	10	9	11	42	49	29
ZTS Kosice	30	12	5	13	42	56	29
Slovan	30	8	12	10	35	32	28
Lokomotive Kosice	30	11	6	13	47	48	28
Spartak Trnava	30	7	13	10	34	37	27
Trencin	30	10	6	14	38	46	26
Pizen	30	9	8	13	27	47	26
Presov	30	7	11	12	24	51	25
Teplice	30	6	7	15	30	48	23

E. GERMANY

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Berlin	26	21	4	1	75	16	46
Dynamo Dresden	26	15	9	2	59	19	39
Carl Zeiss Jena	26	14	6	6	38	21	34
Magdeburg	26	14	5	7	63	32	33
Lokomotiv Leipzig	26	11	7	8	41	40	29
Chemie Halle	26	10	7	9	36	32	27
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	26	9	6	11	37	46	24
Karl-Marx-Stadt	26	9	4	13	32	38	22
Stahl Riese	26	8	5	13	33	47	21
Union Berlin	26	7	7	12	22	39	21
Wismut Aue	26	6	3	15	34	49	19
Sachsenring Zwickau	26	7	4	15	23	63	18
Chemie Bohlen	26	5	6	15	33	66	16
Hansa Rostock	26	5	5	16	30	46	15

W. GERMANY

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamburger SV	34	21	7	6	78	32	49
VfB Stuttgart	34	20	8	6	73	34	48
Kaiserslautern	34	16	11	7	62	47	43
Bayern Munich	34	16	8	10	69	46	40
Eintracht Frankfurt	34	16	7	11	50	49	39
Cologne	34	13	12	9	55	47	38
Fortuna Dusseldorf	34	13	11	10	70	59	37
VfL Bochum	34	10	13	11	47	46	33
E. Braunschweig	34	10	13	11	50	55	33
B. Moenchengladbach	34	12	8	14	50	53	32
Werder Bremen	34	10	11	13	45	60	31
Borussia Dortmund	34	10	11	13	54	70	31
Duisburg	34	12	6	16	43	66	30
Hertha Berlin	34	9	11	14	40	50	29
Schalke 04	34	9	10	15	55	61	28
Arm. Bielefeld	34	9	8	17	43	56	26
Nurnberg	34	8	8	18	36	67	24
Darmstadt	34	7	7	20	40	75	21

NETHERLANDS

Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax Amsterdam	34	24	6	4	93	31	54
Feyenoord	34	19	13	2	62	19	51
PSV Eindhoven	34	20	9	5	65	23	49
AZ 67 Alkmaar	34	19	7	8	64	43	45
Roda JC Kerkrade	34	18	8	8	58	33	44
Sparta Rotterdam	34	14	5	15	47	48	33
Den Haag	34	11	11	12	43	58	33
PEC Zwolle	34	7	10	9	36	45	32
Go Ahead Deventer	34	11	9	14	48	48	31
NAC Breda	34	8	15	11	41	51	31
MVV Maastricht	34	9	13	12	28	45	31
Twente Enschede	34	9	12	13	54	58	30
Utrecht	34	10	10	14	43	55	30
Vitesse Arnheim	34	7	15	12	42	63	29
NEC Nijmegen	34	7	14	13	35	49	28
Haarlem	34	6	13	15	31	64	25
Volendam	34	7	8	19	42	63	22
VV Venlo	34	4	6	24	23	79	14

● *Continued from page 25*

longer. In the West German Uli Stielike, Madrid have a possible solution for replacing Pirri as sweeper. But Barcelona pipped them to Espanol's under-21 stopper Canito and so far Madrid's recruiting drive has come up only with the 27-year-old Salamanca midfielder Angel de los Santos (Known as Angel).

Barcelona are madly rebuilding for next season. Apart from Landaburu and Canito they are also bidding for San Sebastian's midfielder Zamora to fill the gap left by Johan Neeskens's departure to New York Cosmos.

They are at least saving money on the manager. Instead of paying an astronomical sum for a big name, they have signed caretaker boss Joaquin Rife on a three-year contract. Rife, you may remember, took over from Lucien Muller in time for the Cup-winners' triumph over Fortuna Dusseldorf.

This is, of course, a traditional time for comings and goings. Luis Carriega is quitting as Sevilla boss, with Miguel Munoz favourite to move back to the mainland from Las Palmas. But another Luis is on the way back — Luis Aragones, former schemer then coach to Atletico Madrid. Luis stepped down a year ago because of the pressure on his family. But it appears Ferenc Szusza will not be staying on and that Atletico president Vicente Calderon has persuaded Luis to make comeback.

There is a managerial upheaval under way at Atletico's original parent club, Athletic Bilbao.

The Basque Lions finished disappointing ninth out of 18, prompting the resignation of former Spain right winger Koldo Aguirre. As ever the Bilbao club, with their strong British historical base, have been linked with a number of Englishmen.

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COUNTRY WS1

LEAGUE TABLES

ITALY
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	30	17	10	3	46	19	44
Perugia	30	11	19	0	34	16	41
Juventus	30	12	13	5	40	23	37
Inter-Milan	30	10	16	4	38	24	36
Torino	30	11	14	5	35	23	36
Napoli	30	9	14	7	23	21	32
Fiorentina	30	10	12	8	26	26	32
Lazio	30	9	11	10	35	40	29
Catanzaro	30	6	16	8	23	30	28
Ascoli	30	7	12	11	26	31	26
Avellino	30	6	14	10	19	26	26
Roma	30	8	10	12	24	32	26
Bologna	30	4	16	10	23	28	24
Vicenza	30	5	14	11	29	42	24
Atalanta	30	8	12	12	20	38	24
Verona	30	2	11	17	14	39	15

BULGARIA
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski Spartak	30	18	7	5	54	29	43
CSKA Sofia	30	14	12	4	49	26	40
Lokomotiv Sofia	30	14	9	7	35	22	37
Slavia	30	16	4	10	52	33	36
Bourgas	30	13	8	9	45	43	34
Marek Stanke	30	13	7	10	42	39	33
Beroe	30	14	6	11	48	47	33
Pirin	30	9	11	10	37	39	29
Trakia Plovdiv	30	9	11	10	45	45	29
Chernomore	30	8	10	12	29	40	26
Plevene	30	9	7	14	25	27	25
Botev Vratza	30	9	7	14	38	42	25
Sliven	30	8	9	13	35	42	25
Lokomotiv Plovdiv	30	10	4	16	35	43	24
Akademik Svishtov	30	6	10	14	27	50	22
Haskovo	30	7	5	18	35	59	19

USSR
Final League Table 1978

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Tbilisi	30	17	8	5	45	24	42
Dynamo Kiev	30	15	9	6	42	20	38
Schachtjor Donask	30	16	5	9	42	31	37
Dynamo Moscow	30	14	10	6	37	23	36
Spartak Moscow	30	14	5	11	42	33	33
Tchernomorets Odessa	30	12	10	8	41	26	32
CSKA Moscow	30	14	4	12	36	40	32
Torpedo Moscow	30	11	11	8	36	29	30
Pachtakor Tashkent	30	9	8	13	42	43	26
Sarja Voroshilovgrad	30	9	8	13	36	44	26
Zenit Leningrad	30	9	8	13	31	46	26
Kairat Alma-Ata	30	9	7	14	29	41	25
Neftji Baku	30	8	7	15	28	39	23
Lokomotiv Moscow	30	7	9	14	26	40	22
Ararat Erevan	30	8	6	16	20	42	22
Dnjepr Dnjepropetrovsk	30	9	3	18	25	39	21

Only eight drawn games allowed for each. Above that number, no point is given for a draw.

FINLAND
Final League Table 1978

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Helsinki JK	22	13	7	2	52	29	33
KPT	22	12	8	2	36	15	32
Valkeakosken Haka	22	12	7	3	42	19	31
Turun Palloseura	22	12	2	8	57	29	26
Olun Palloseura	22	11	4	7	34	21	26
Mikkelin Pallokissat	22	11	3	8	29	22	25
Kuopion Palloseura	22	9	3	10	33	31	21
KPV	22	8	5	9	25	31	21
Lahden Reipas	22	5	9	8	20	35	19
Turun PA	22	4	9	9	14	28	17
Kronohagens	22	2	3	17	13	58	7
Olun Tyovaen Palloilijat	22	1	4	17	15	52	6

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
Final League Table 1978-79

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundalk	30	19	7	4	57	25	45
Bohemians	30	18	7	5	53	21	43
Drogheda Utd	30	18	6	6	60	40	42
Waterford	30	17	8	5	48	32	42
Limerick	30	14	8	8	39	25	36
Shamrock Rov.	30	17	3	10	45	25	37
Athlone Town	30	14	7	9	56	41	35
Finn Harps	30	14	6	10	56	41	34
Home Farm	30	13	7	10	47	33	33
Sligo Rov.	30	9	7	14	38	40	25
Cork Alberta	30	7	9	14	35	49	23
Thurles Town	30	9	5	16	35	63	23
Shelbourne	30	6	9	15	41	58	21
St. Patrick's Ath.	30	7	6	17	36	62	20
Galway Rov.	30	4	5	21	41	79	13
Cork Celtic	30	2	4	24	16	67	8

NORWAY
Final League Table 1978

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IK Start	22	13	7	2	30	13	33
Lillestroem	22	11	9	2	45	22	31
Viking Stavanger	22	12	7	3	42	22	31
Skeid Oslo	22	12	2	8	38	33	26
SK Brann Bergen	22	11	3	8	52	42	25
Valerengen	22	9	6	7	44	34	24
Bryne	22	7	8	7	27	30	22
Moss FK	22	8	4	10	39	38	20
SoFK Bodo/Glimt	22	6	6	10	37	37	18
Molde	22	5	2	15	36	58	12
Lyn Oslo	22	3	5	14	23	53	11
Steinkjer	22	1	9	12	20	61	11

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WANTED: World Soccer January to May, 1978 inclusive. Will pay £5 for good condition, to include postage. Please write to K. Percy, 5 Pearitree Close, Hardwicke, Gloucester.

I AM A 14-YEAR-OLD Sheffield United fan (the team of Argentinians Sabella, Ratin and Arce) and I would like to correspond with anyone who regularly watches any of these clubs: River Plate, Juventus, Barcelona, Valencia, FC Cologne and Cosmos. Please write to: Nigel Colton, 35 Hastings Road, Sheffield, S7 2GT, England.

WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE old and new magazines as well as posters from Argentina with people from every country. Write, no matter in what language, to: Dario Luque Neira, Antartida 105/Mateinzo, 5103, Cordoba (Argentina).

WILL EXCHANGE five Cosmos v. Coventry City programmes (brand new, four pages, pictures of players) for 1977-78 Mansfield Town home or aways. Would also like to purchase first five editions of Rothmans Football Yearbook. Please state price required. William Carter, 36 John Street, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, USA.

I AM A 21-YEAR-OLD BRAZILIAN BOY, living in Rio de Janeiro, who would like to correspond with football fans all over the world, in particular of Spain, who can supply facts and figures about their country's principal football teams. Also wanted information contained in the book "Encyclopedia Del Fútbol Español" (published in Macrid, 1972). Luiz Felipe Gomes Soutinho, Rua Haddock Lobo, 163, Apto 801, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil, CEP 20260.

I AM A 16-YEAR-OLD and would like pen pal from Italy, especially Juventus or AC Torino fans who want to exchange magazines, souvenirs, etc. D. Actus, 43 Newlands Park, Sydenham, SE26, SPN, London.

WANTED: any quantity of the following magazines: World Soccer (1972 onwards), Football Pictorial and Charles Buchans Football Monthly. I would also like large quantities of Shoot, Roy of the Rovers, Tiger and Goal. Please send list of magazines to: Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Old Farnley, Leeds, LS12 5HE, England.

WANTED: New York Cosmos souvenirs (posters, pictures, pennants, badges, etc). Will buy or exchange. My address is: Ronnie Williams, 11 Vandyke Street, Liverpool 8, Merseyside Ors, Lancs, England.

WANTED information on Central and South American clubs (club colours, etc). I will exchange information with you. Mark Brattle, 16 Windermere Place, Cannock, Staffs, England.

WANTED: Penfriends from any and all countries. I would like to exchange badges, pennants and all other soccer souvenirs. I will answer all the letters I receive. Martin Taylor, 89 Laburnum Road, Ettingshall Park Farm, Wolverhampton, West Mid, WV4 6PD, England.

A BOY, aged between 19-23, who preferably lives in or near Stuttgart and who would be willing to swap football information, etc. Would suit a German fan interested in Scottish teams. I am female and my hobbies are football, hockey, drawing and pop music. If you cannot help me, could you please give me an address to write to concerning this, or even an address to a German football magazine. Doreen Cumming, 5 North Street, Clackmannon, Clacks, FK10 4JO, Scotland.

MY NAME IS YURI ANDRUHANOV. As I like football very much, I collect football souvenirs and I would like to exchange badges, pennants and other football souvenirs. Especially wanted collectors from Britain, West Germany, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Greece and Turkey. Y. O. Andruhanov, Krasnoarmeyskaya 29/19, Kiev-4, USSR.

WANTED: football magazines of any type, preferably Football Pictorial, World Soccer, Shoot, Goal, comics and any other football magazine. I would also like Tiger comics, and any annuals of the above magazines. Will pay your chosen price. Graham Hannah, 858 Tong Road, Leeds 12, England.

25-YEAR-OLD FOOTBALL FANATIC seeks pen-pals from all over the world to correspond and exchange football programmes. All letters answered. David Norris, 90 Welland Crescent, Elsecar, Barnsley, Yorkshire, S74 8AE.

PEN-PALS WANTED in Holland, Spain, France, Italy and Belgium. Particularly supporters of Ajax Amsterdam, PSV Eindhoven, Bastia (Corsica), Barcelona, Valencia, Juventus, Vicenza and Anderlecht, males 17-19. Hobbies: all sports especially football. All letters will be replied to. I speak English only. My address is as follows: Debby Wall, Rhodes House, Epworth High School, Pietermaritsburg 3201, Natal, R.S.A. or PO Box 354, Kitwe, Zambia.

FOR SALE: German Kicker "Fussball Magazin", number 1—13 from September 1976—December 1978. Make an offer. Wanted: World Soccer issues before August 1976. Special interest in issues around World Cups. Contact: J. K. Hammond, 32 Cedar Pond Drive #11, Warwick, R. I. 02886, USA.

FOR SALE various programmes and soccer books. Send sae to: S. Wurst, 176 Birdsfoot Lane, Luton, Beds.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXCHANGE football badges, especially with a collector from United Kingdom and Scandinavian countries. Zdenek Kucera, Marxova 524, 278 01 Kralupy n/Vl. II, okr. Melnik, Czechoslovakia.

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